



GIRL TROUBLE



The Republican Party's woman problem is in the spotlight

In this Thursday, Sept. 13, 2018 file photo, Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, speaks during a Senate Judiciary Committee markup meeting on Capitol Hill, in Washington.

Associated Press

By STEVE PEOPLES and JUANA SUMMERS

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Eleven Republican men,

backed by a Republican president plagued by sex scandal, will soon judge the credibility of a woman accusing President Donald

Trump's Supreme Court nominee of sexual assault. An extraordinary moment years in the making, never before has the GOP's wom-

an problem been more apparent.

The showdown comes six weeks before the first mid-term elections of Trump's

presidency amid a political realignment of the sexes that could shape U.S. elections for a generation.

Continued on Page 3

Windows on Aruba
RESTAURANT

TRY OUR DAILY 3-COURSE TASTING MENU!

ONLY **\$49** PER PERSON
EXCLUDES ALCOHOLIC DRINKS

RESERVATIONS: 297.523.5017 | WINDOWSARUBA.COM



Citizens' group wants prosecution over CIA rendition program

By EMERY P. DALESIO

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — North Carolina state and local officials should prosecute participants in a CIA program that ferried terrorism suspects to secret sites where they were tortured, an advocacy group seeking to stir action over the former U.S. policy is demanding.

Prosecution is one of dozens of recommendations to be released Thursday by the private, 11-member North Carolina Commission of Inquiry on Torture. The academics, lawyers, retired military officers and clergy who make up the self-appointed group held a public teach-in in Raleigh last year.

Such non-governmental inquiry commissions have no



In this Dec. 9, 2014, file photo, Senate Intelligence Committee Chair Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., speaks to reporters on Capitol Hill in Washington, as she leaves the Senate chamber after releasing a report on the CIA's harsh interrogation techniques at secret overseas facilities after the 9/11 terror attacks.

Associated Press

official power, though others succeeded in bringing attention to American military atrocities in Vietnam and war crimes in Bangladesh during that country's 1971 civil war.

The anti-torture activists now say they want government admissions and compensation for those tortured. State and county legal authorities also should prosecute the pilots and others involved in transporting prisoners since Washington won't under "laws that criminalize kidnapping, aggravated assault, false imprisonment, and conspiracies to commit such unlawful acts," the group said.

In the years after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks by al-Qaeda terrorists on the United States, CIA interrogators employed tactics like simulated drownings and mock executions that are now widely viewed as torture. A 2014 report released by then-Senate Intelligence Committee chairwoman Sen. Dianne Feinstein, a California Democrat, concluded the agency understated the brutality of the techniques, while overstating the value of information obtained by using them.

The group's focus on North Carolina springs from the reported involvement in the CIA program of Aero Contractors Limited. The

private air carrier, whose website says it originated due to a "market need for dependable and discreet airlift," operates out of a county airport about 30 miles (50 kilometers) south of Raleigh and 50 miles (80.5 kilometers) east of Fort Bragg, home to the Army's anti-terrorist Delta Force and other Special Operations units.

Flights operated by Aero Contractors delivered at least 49 people to secret CIA sites from Thailand to Poland or to foreign intelligence services for interrogation and possible torture, said the group's report, which relied on the work of an academic at London's University of Westminster who studies the CIA program.

"Instead of holding Aero accountable, the State of North Carolina and Johnston County until now have effectively endorsed its activities. This support has taken the form of hosting the company's headquarters at the Johnston County Airport and providing it with various airport and other county services," the report said. Aero Contractors president Dolph Overton IV and other company officials did not return phone calls or emails seeking comment on the commission's statements. The CIA declined to comment.

Neither North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein nor Gov. Roy Cooper, who served as attorney general for 16 years before Stein took over last year, have given any indication they wanted to explore the state's ties to the CIA detention and interrogation program shuttered by President Barack Obama in 2009. Nor have any local prosecutors.

Spokesmen for Cooper did not respond when asked why he hasn't investigated or discussed North Carolina's connections to the CIA program. "Based on our understanding of the situation, this appears to be a federal matter," Stein spokeswoman Laura Brewster said in an email. Cooper and Stein are Democrats. □

L.G.S
L.G. SMITH'S
STEAK & CHOP HOUSE

HAIKOBE
FRIDAYS. ONLY AT L.G.S.
STARTING JUNE 15TH.

70° 05'W

12° 32'N

Join us at Renaissance Aruba's L.G. Smith's Steakhouse for the only Kobe Steak on the island. This famous Japanese steak is known for its flavor, tenderness and well-marbled texture. To complement these succulent cuts of meat, we're pairing the Kobe Steak with exclusive wines that you can order by the bottle or by the glass.

ORANJESTAD, NEXT TO CRYSTAL CASINO
Reservations call 523.6195 or lgsmiths.com
facebook.com/RenaissanceAruba

WOMEN PROBLEM

Continued from Front

While there are political risks for both sides, a vocal minority in Trump's GOP warned that their party's strained relationship with women could suffer permanent damage if the Republicans who control the confirmation process ignore mounting allegations of sexual misconduct and give Brett Kavanaugh a lifetime seat on the nation's high court.

"I do not believe the claim of sexual assault is invalid because a 15-year-old girl didn't report the assault to authorities, as the president of the United States said just two days ago," Republican Sen. Jeff Flake, who is not running for re-election this fall, said Wednesday. "How uninformed and uncaring do we have to be to say things like that, much less believe them?"

The Arizona senator added: "How many times do we have to marginalize and ignore women before we learn that important lesson?"

Kavanaugh has vehemently denied all sexual misconduct allegations.

Even before his accusers came forward, 2018 had already emerged as the year of the woman in politics. But with control of Congress and state houses across the nation at stake, it's Democratic women who are most engaged. A total of 603 women are still in the running for Congress or statewide office this year, according to Rutgers Center for American Women and Politics. Of that group, just 108 — fewer than 2 in 10 — are Republicans.

Thursday's hearing has highlighted the GOP's deficit with women.

None of the Republicans on the powerful Senate Judiciary Committee are female. Party leaders hired what Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell called a "female assistant," a special victims prosecutor based in Arizona, to question Christine Blasey Ford, who alleged that Kavanaugh sexually assaulted her when they were both in high school.

At least two more women have alleged misconduct,

though Republican leaders who control the process have excluded them from the hearing. Nor have they allowed witnesses or further federal investigation.

Trump lashed out at the women during a Wednesday press conference while acknowledging his personal experience with allegations of sexual misconduct — he has denied accusations from more than a dozen women — has shaped his perspective on Kavanaugh.

"What they've done to this man is incredible," the president declared. "It's a big, fat con job."

Trump also falsely claimed he won the female vote in the 2016 election and suggested that women support the GOP approach on Kavanaugh.

"Women are so angry. And I frankly think, I think they like what the Republicans are doing," he said.

Jennifer Pierotti, co-founder of Republican Women for Progress, disagrees with the Republican president's assessment. She's frustrated with their party's moves on Kavanaugh and the absence of Republican women on the Judiciary Committee.

"They never really invested in getting more women into the pipeline to run for office," Pierotti said. "When you don't do any of those things for a long enough time, you're not going to have women at the table on the Republican side when you're coming up with policies or you're making big decisions."

For now, the GOP is moving forward quickly.

Procedural votes on Kavanaugh's appointment to the Supreme Court could come as early as Saturday. Activists are urging the party to slow down.

"It's never too late" for Republican leaders to begin to repair their strained relationship with women, said Toni Van Pelt, president of the National Organization for Women, who declared that men like Kavanaugh "don't care about women." "The way they can make amends is by canceling the hearing, by admitting it's a sham, by admitting they have disrespected women their entire lifetimes," Van

Pelt told The Associated Press.

The Republican Party's woman problem began long before Trump's rise. It hit a low point after conservatives blocked the Equal Rights Amendment in the late 1970s, fell lower in the early 1990s after Republicans grilled Anita Hill about sexual harassment claims against Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas, and fell yet again in 2014 after one Republican Senate candidate raised the prospect of "legitimate rape."

The GOP's relationship with women may have hit rock bottom in 2016 after Republicans elected a president who bragged on video about grabbing women by their genitals.

More women supported Democrats than Republicans for the first time in the 1980 presidential election — a phenomenon commonly referred to as a "gender gap." The disparity repeated itself for the first time in a midterm election in 1986, said University of Virginia professor Jennifer Lawless.

With few exceptions, Democrats have enjoyed a significant gender gap ever



In this Oct. 27, 2004 photo Rachel Mitchell makes an opening statement in the trial of Karl LeClaire at court in Mesa, Ariz.

Associated Press

since. In the 2016 presidential election, for example, 54 percent of women backed Democrat Hillary Clinton while 41 supported Trump, according to exit polls.

While Trump survived the 13-point gap, Republican strategists are particularly concerned about the shift in college-educated white women, who play an outsized role in the suburban districts that will decide the House majority this fall.

While Clinton won a narrow majority of the demographic in 2016, polling suggests that the overwhelming ma-

jority of college-educated white women now hold an unfavorable view of Trump and his party. The most recent Gallup poll shows that 35 percent of women nationwide approve of Trump.

At the same time, men appear to be leaving the Democratic Party. A Reuters/Ipsos poll earlier in the year found white millennial men who favored Democrats by a significant margin in 2016 now favor Republicans. Chris Wilson, a Republican pollster working on several campaigns this fall, has found a similar phenomenon. □

AZURE BEACH RESIDENCES

Tower I: Move in ready 90% Sold

Tower II: Now selling

Visit our sales office at Azure Beach Residences.
+297 5946395

Exclusive Oceanfront residences with 180° views of the Caribbean and just a few steps from Eagle Beach.

www.azure-aruba.com



OPENING HOURS
8am to 11pm Monday to Friday
24/7 SERVICE
8am to 5pm Saturday

Walk-In Immediate Medical Care

For Non-Life Threatening Acute Episodic Illnesses or Injuries

FOR AFTER-HOURS AND SUNDAYS CALL:

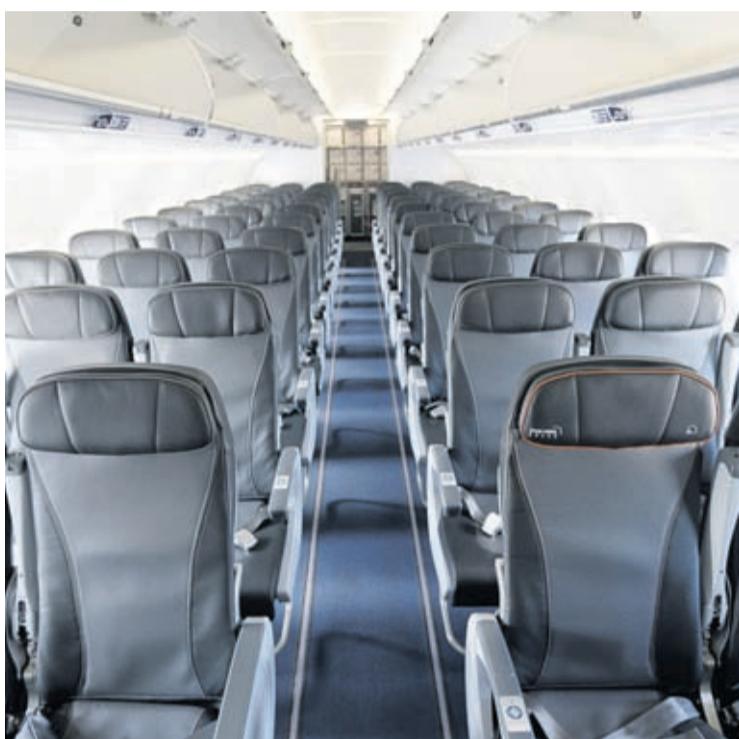
+297 586 0448

Noord 63 in the Noord Medical Center Building

✉ info@urgentcare.aw Ⓛ www.urgentcare.aw Ⓛ urgentcarearuba



**Urgent
Care
Aruba**



This Thursday, March 16, 2017, file photo shows the interior of a commercial airliner at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York.

Associated Press

By DAVID KOENIG
AP Airlines Writer

The House voted Wednes-

day to direct the federal government to set a minimum size for airline seats,

Included in House FAA bill: Minimum size for airline seats

bar passengers from being kicked off overbooked planes, and consider whether to restrict animals on planes.

Those and other passenger-related provisions were included in a bill to authorize Federal Aviation Administration programs for five years. The House approved the measure by a 398-23 vote, sending it to the Senate, which faces a Sunday deadline.

The FAA bill is also notable for what is not included. Lawmakers abandoned a plan backed by airlines to privatize the nation's air-traffic-control system. And congressional negotiators dropped a proposal to

crack down on "unreasonable" airline fees.

The bill includes several provisions backed by consumer groups. Among them:

- It gives the FAA one year to set minimum measurements for airline seats and the distance between rows. Provision sponsors said cramped planes are a safety issue during emergencies such as fires.

"People are getting larger, the seats are getting smaller, and it's just obvious that you can't evacuate the planes in the requisite time," Rep. Steve Cohen, D-Tenn., said in an interview.

- It bars airlines from removing passengers from overbooked flights once the passenger has boarded the plane. The issue gained attention after airport officers dragged a 69-year-old man off a United Express plane last year to make room for an airline employee. Airlines could still bump people before boarding begins.

- Directs the Transportation Department to set rules for service and emotional-support animals on planes including "reasonable measures to ensure pets are not claimed as service animals." Airlines have taken modest steps to crack down on support animals, which they say are surging in numbers and leading to incidents of biting and defecating on planes.

- Prohibits putting a live animal in an overhead bin. A French bulldog puppy died in the overhead bin of a United Airlines plane in March.

- When a computer outage causes widespread delays and cancellations, the airline must say on its

website whether it will help stranded customers with hotel rooms, meals, or seats on another carrier.

- Bars passengers from making cell phone calls during airline flights.

- Creates a committee to advise the FAA on how to prevent consumers from being hit with huge and unexpected bills from air-ambulance companies.

Last year, a Senate committee approved a provision directing the Transportation Department to crack down on "unreasonable" airline fees for things like changing a reservation. But airlines and the industry's major trade group, Airlines for America, lobbied fiercely against the proposal, which they said amounted to reregulating airline prices for the first time in 40 years. The issue was dropped last week during final negotiations.

Before that, Senate Commerce Committee Chairman John Thune, R-S.D., gave up an attempt to weaken a regulation requiring that pilots have at least 1,500 hours of flying time before they can fly for an airline. Safety advocates had objected.

House Transportation Committee Chairman Bill Shuster, R-Penn., backed away from a plan to shift control of the nation's air-traffic-control system from the FAA to a private corporation. Shuster acknowledged that he didn't have the votes to pass the airline-backed provision.

The FAA's current authority expires Sunday, but Congress could pass a brief extension to give the Senate more time to consider the House-passed bill. □





DRAGONFLY

SUSHI - ASIAN RESTAURANT - LOUNGE

DAILY EARLY BIRD \$19.75

between 4PM - 7PM

Opening hours: daily 4PM - 11PM - Live music: daily 7PM - 10PM
J.E. Irausquin Blvd 370 (across from Barceló Resort) Arawak Garden, Palm Beach
Tel: +297 280 0019 - E: dragonfly@arubawineanddine.com
www.dragonflyaruba.com - www.facebook.com/dragonflyaruba

Appetizer

Grouper 'Butterfly' / Mozzarella salad /
Miso soup

Main course

Phad Thai / Green curry veggies /
Chicken teriyaki / Grouper 'Dragonfly' /
Mongolian beef

Dessert

Vanilla ice cream

INSIDE & OUTSIDE SEATING - FREE PARKING

2nd cracked beam found at new San Francisco transit terminal

By JANIE HAR and PAUL ELIAS

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A second beam in San Francisco's celebrated new \$2 billion transit terminal shows signs of cracking, an official said Wednesday, a day after a crack in a nearby support beam shut down the building that opened just last month.

The first crack found by workers installing roof tiles Tuesday spans a beam holding up a park over the three-block-long Salesforce Transit Center and runs over a downtown street, said Mark Zabaneh, executive director of Transbay Joint Powers Authority, which operates the facility. He said the problems were localized to that area of the transit hub but it would remain closed "at least through the end of next week" as inspections continued. It's not yet clear what caused the cracks at the facility that includes a bus deck, a towering sky-lit central entrance hall and a rooftop park with an outdoor amphitheater.

"We're working hard to rectify the situation," Zabaneh said. "We're very disappointed with what happened; we will get to the bottom of this."

Mayor London Breed said the building would stay closed until it was safe to reopen. Its role in the broader transportation system is too important "not to act quickly to have definitive answers for the public, and someone needs to be held accountable once the cause is determined,"



Mark Zabaneh, Executive Director of the Transbay Joint Powers Authority, points to a photograph showing a cracked steel beam found in the Salesforce Transit Center, during a news conference Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2018, in San Francisco.

Associated Press

she said in a statement. Engineers decided to shut down the station around 5 p.m. Tuesday, as rush hour started, once they learned the extent of the cracking. The transit hub, a commanding presence in the city's South of Market neighborhood where construction is booming, sits adjacent to the so-called sinking condominium, Millennium Tower, which has settled about 18 inches (45 centimeters) since it opened over a former landfill in 2009. Homeowners have filed multiple lawsuits against the developer and the city,

some alleging that construction of the transit center caused the Millennium Tower to sink.

Zabaneh said he did not believe the cracked beams are connected to ongoing problems at Millennium Tower.

Engineer Joe Maffei also said the troubles at the terminal appear "completely unrelated" to the Millennium Tower's sinking and tilting.

He said there have been no public reports of similar settling problems with the terminal.

The first crack was found near a weld on a stress-

bearing horizontal beam and the second on a parallel beam, Zabaneh said. American steel was used in the center's construction, he said.

Construction experts say it's exceedingly rare for steel girders that support buildings to crack.

Engineer David Friedman said it's likely the beams arrived without cracks, but that once the weight of the roof garden and other structures were added, "new stresses may have exacerbated the possible fabrication flaws."

The beams likely passed inspection after installation,

Maffei said.

"If that's the case, it's likely welding caused the problem," he said.

Buses were rerouted to a temporary transit center about two blocks away that was used during the center's construction. A downtown street that runs under the beam also was ordered closed indefinitely, causing traffic chaos at the same time some streets were closed for a conference sponsored by Salesforce that was expected to draw 170,000 attendees.

Numerous towering condo buildings have gone up in the booming South of Market neighborhood and several multistory construction projects are underway. Officials voted in 2012 to scrap building-height restrictions to encourage growth near the transit hub as San Francisco lures technology companies from Silicon Valley.

Julianne Cheng, 32, who lives in the neighborhood, burst out laughing when asked about cracking in the \$2.2 billion transit center.

"I find it disappointing, but also kind of amusing because they built this really big, they spent a lot of money," she said. "I feel like the money should have been used for a lot of other things."

The online business software company Salesforce, which opened its adjacent 61-story Salesforce Tower earlier this year, bought naming rights to the transit center in 2017 as part of a 25-year, \$110 million sponsorship agreement. □

New Florence flooding forecasts are good news for S. Carolina

By MEG KINNARD and JEFFREY COLLINS

BUCKSPORT, S.C. (AP) —

The last community in the way of Hurricane Florence's floodwaters as they slowly flow to the sea got some good news Wednesday — the predictions aren't as dire as they once were.

And it appears the Waccamaw River won't top a lake of coal ash or the main highway to Myrtle Beach. Officials originally expected flooding in the worst areas of Georgetown County to be from 5 to 10 feet (1.5 to 3 meters). But the latest forecast lowered that estimate to 2 to 4 feet (0.6 to 1.2 meters), according to the county's Facebook page.

"The water is spreading," Georgetown County Administrator Sel Hemingway said Wednesday. "We are not seeing the vertical rise." Twelve days after the once-fierce hurricane arrived on the coast, and more than a week after it blew north and dissipated, rivers swollen by its relentless rains are still flooding homes and businesses in their paths as they make their way to the sea. And even the new flooding forecasts are still well above records set just two years ago by Hurricane Matthew.

The death toll from the storm is still adding up. North Carolina officials blamed the death of a 67-year-old man who fractured his neck cleaning up storm debris Sept. 18 in Craven County on the storm. Florence has killed at least 47 people — 36 in North Carolina; nine in South Carolina; and two in Virginia.

In many places in the Carolinas, the damage is already done. North Carolina agriculture officials estimate \$1.1 billion in losses from Florence, most of it done to crops in the field. That was nearly three times the damage reported by farmers from Hurricane Matthew in 2016. Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler said the losses this year were greater because harvests were underway or just getting started.

Preliminary estimates show



In this Monday, Sept. 24, 2018 photo, flood waters from the Neuse River cover the area in Kinston, N.C. a week after Hurricane Florence.

Associated Press

about 2,000 homes have been damaged by flooding in South Carolina, with half of them suffering major damage or being destroyed, said state Emergency Management Division Director Kim Stenson, adding those numbers are far from final with flooding still occurring that could affect hundreds or thousands of additional homes.

Ivory Williamson took a boat Wednesday to check on her home she left four days ago in Bucksport, a small inland community about 12 miles (19 kilometers) from Myrtle Beach near the confluence of several rivers. Water is all over her yard and covers the roads, streets and buildings. It is worse than the 2016 flooding from Hurricane Matthew, she said.

"Now it's the second time," Williamson said. "We live near the water, but we won't expect the water to bury us like this."

The flood wasn't going to go away quickly. The newest predictions from South Carolina officials moved back the peak of the flooding from Thursday to either Friday or Saturday in Georgetown County, where the most seriously flooded waterways — the Waccamaw and Pee Dee rivers — meet three other rivers on their way to the Atlantic Ocean.

The forecasts could change again, officials warned, and South Carolina Gov. Henry McMaster joined the call for residents to not let their guard down.

"We are still in full battle mode in Georgetown County," McMaster said at a news conference Wednesday.

There appeared to be good news in Conway, too. The Waccamaw River, which flows through the city of 23,000, spent more than a day at just over 21.1 feet (6.4 meters), some 6 inches (15 centimeters) under the predicted crest.

That averted potential environmental and transportation problems. The river water stayed 1 foot (30 centimeters) below a coal ash pond at a closed power plant in Conway, according to the state-owned utility Santee Cooper.

The floodwater from the river also had not made it over a temporary barrier quickly built on U.S. Highway 501, the main link to Myrtle Beach. Water is touching the barrier of sand and plastic called the Lifeline, but is still well below the top of it, according to the state Department of Transportation.

In North Carolina, residents in Lumberton sued CSX Corp. saying the railroad company refused to give permission to build a tem-

porary sandbag berm under a bridge until an emergency order from the governor at the last minute.

The lawsuit said the underpass also created a gap in a levee that made flooding worse during Hurricane Matthew in 2016 and cited a report in May where the state called for a floodgate. CSX issued a statement that it doesn't com-

ment on pending litigation, but noted the "extraordinary storm" devastated Lumberton and other communities with its flooding.

Also in Robeson County, Sheriff Kenneth Sealey said his deputies with help from National Guard high-clearance trucks rescued 400 animals — which included dogs, cats, horses, peacocks, chickens, quail and potbellied pig — from a flooded property after some were seen stranded on a rooftop in the Orrum community. About 300 more animals were found dead on the property over the weekend, Sealey said. Authorities were meeting with prosecutors Wednesday to see if the people responsible for the animals should face charges.

But even in places that saw the worst of Florence, there were signs that life was returning to normal. In Wilmington, North Carolina, where swollen rivers cut off the city of 117,000 people from the rest of the country for several days, the University of North Carolina at Wilmington will restart classes on Oct. 8, Chancellor Jose Sartarelli said. □

11 people charged in drug treatment fraud involving pellets

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP)

— Eleven people including doctors have been charged in Southern California in an alleged insurance-fraud scheme involving an implant surgery that purportedly helps drug addicts and alcoholics, Orange County's top prosecutor said Wednesday.

"Orange County's become what's known as the 'Rehab Riviera' due to the proliferation of insurance fraud and the attractiveness of our communities," District Attorney Tony Rackauckas said in announcing the case. Five doctors, two administrators and four body brokers were charged with par-

ticipating in the scheme through a business called SoberLife USA. A telephone message seeking comment was left for the owner, Thuy Rucks, 78, of Mission Viejo.

"All told, SoberLife USA is accused of billing these insurance providers over \$6.8 million in health care claims for this experimental, non-FDA-approved and potentially dangerous surgery," Rackauckas said. All were scheduled to be arraigned Thursday on various charges including conspiring in unauthorized practice of medicine, insurance fraud, and false and fraudulent claim. □



Santa Monica PD Capt. Wendell Shirley, left, speaks at LAPD headquarters Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

By CHRISTOPHER WEBER
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A man who had been deported six times was charged Wednesday in a string of killings and beatings that targeted sleeping homeless people in Southern California, authorities said.

Authorities say suspect Ramon Alberto Escobar has a long criminal record in the U.S. and has been repeatedly deported to his native El Salvador.

His scheduled Wednesday arraignment in Los Angeles was postponed to Nov. 8 and he was ordered to remain jailed without bail.

The 47-year-old Escobar is charged with three counts of murder, five counts of attempted murder and four counts of second-degree robbery.

He also faces special circumstance allegations of multiple murders and murder during the commission of a robbery, making him eligible for the death penalty.

It could not be immediately determined if he had an attorney.

Meanwhile, police in Houston want to talk to Escobar again about the disappearance of his aunt. He was not a suspect when he was first questioned Aug. 30, Houston police spokesman Kese Smith said.

Investigators spoke with Escobar because he was

one of the last people to see Dina Escobar, 60, before she vanished in late August.

Authorities say they found no outstanding warrants and released Ramon Escobar before the three men were beaten to death in California.

Escobar said at the time that he was in the country on a work visa, Smith said, a claim echoed by family members.

"We had no probable cause to arrest or book him," Smith said.

Immigration status is checked by Houston police only when a person is being booked into the city jail after being charged with a crime, Smith said.

Escobar, believed to be homeless himself, likely targeted victims to rob them, Los Angeles police Capt. William Hayes said.

Detectives have seized a wooden baseball bat and bolt cutters that they believe were used to bludgeon men on the beach or on the street in Los Angeles and Santa Monica, police said. All but one of the men was homeless.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials have filed a detainer seeking to take him into custody if he is released, the agency said.

Escobar was first ordered removed from the country in 1988 and was deported

to his native El Salvador six times between 1997 and 2011, ICE said in a statement.

He was released from ICE custody last year after successfully appealing his latest immigration case, ICE said. The agency didn't indicate his current legal status.

However, Escobar has six felony convictions for burglary and illegal reentry, the agency said.

Escobar spent five years in prison for robbery starting in the mid-1990s, Hayes said. Records in Texas show Escobar has had arrests for vehicle burglary, trespassing, failure to stop, public intoxication and two assaults, most recently in November 2017. That case was a misdemeanor.

Dina Escobar's burned van was found in Galveston, Texas, a few days after she went looking for her brother. She was last seen Aug. 28, two days after her brother vanished, the statement said.

Dina Escobar's daughter, Ligia Salamanca, told KTRK-TV in Houston that her cousin, Ramon Escobar, had never come across as violent and wasn't a source of trouble for the family.

"She loved him as she would a son," Salamanca said of her mother's devotion to Ramon Escobar.

Salamanca said he had been looking for work and

Man deported 6 times charged in California homeless killings

needed a place to stay, so he was taken in by his uncle, 65-year-old Rogelio Escobar, who also went missing.

Investigators believe Ramon Escobar used a baseball bat to bash the heads of three homeless men sleeping on downtown Los Angeles streets before dawn on Sept. 16, police said in a statement. Two died.

Two homeless men sleeping on the beach were bludgeoned in the head early on Sept. 8 and Sept. 10, leaving one in critical

condition, officials said. Another man who apparently was sleeping on the beach was found dead under the Santa Monica Pier on Sept. 20. Steven Ray Cruze Jr., 39, of San Gabriel had been beaten to death. Authorities at first described him as homeless, but family and friends said the father of two, who loved to fish at the pier, worked on boats in neighboring Marina del Rey and sometimes camped out under the pier to avoid the long commute home. □



This photo provided by the Texas Department of Public Safety shows Ramon Escobar.

Associated Press



Who can help us to start with a non killer shelter?

Aruba kills many animals, and the dogs and cats are in the killer cage, in the heat for many days without water and food!

The dogs and cats are suffering so much !

Save the animals from the killer cage on Aruba.



+31657679431
ONLY WHATSAPP



SAVE UP TO 20%

JOLLY PIRATE TICKETS

SAIL, SNORKEL, SWIM & SWING!
9am-1pm \$60pp
Visit 3 Great sites BBQ,
Open Bar, Gear & Ropeswing!

AFTERNOON SNORKEL
2-5pm \$45pp
2 snorkel sites Open
Bar, Gear & Ropeswing!

SUNSET SAIL
5:30-7:30pm \$32pp
Open Bar & Ropeswing!

www.jolly-pirates.com
Offer not valid in combination with other discount offers.

UK Labour leader aims to shift focus from Brexit to economy

By JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British opposition leader Jeremy Corbyn rallied his Labour Party on Wednesday, calling for a clampdown on unfettered capitalism and a huge investment in public services as he tried to re-focus attention on domestic policies after an annual conference dominated by Brexit.

Corbyn said in his keynote speech that "the old way of running things isn't working anymore," and argued that his socialist ideas represent "the new political mainstream."

A veteran left-winger who was the surprise winner of Labour's 2015 leadership



Britain's main opposition Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn gives his keynote speech at the Labour Party's annual conference in Liverpool, England, Wednesday Sept. 26, 2018.

Associated Press

contest, Corbyn favors a brand of openly socialist politics that was banished during the centrist, "New Labour" years of then Prime Minister Tony Blair.

Corbyn's attacks on Prime Minister Theresa May's "nasty, cynical" Conservative government and the social pain caused by cuts to public spending were

cheered loudly by Labour delegates. Party members applauded promises of free childcare, increased funding for police forces and a huge social-housing program.

Corbyn said after the 2008 financial crisis "the political and corporate establishment strained every sinew to bail out and prop up the system that led to the crash in the first place."

"The price of that has not just been stagnation, wages falling for the longest period in recorded history, and almost a decade of deeply damaging cuts to public services," Corbyn said. "It's also fueled the growth of racism and xenophobia and has led to a

crisis of democracy both at home and abroad."

Corbyn committed Labour to a huge investment in renewable energy to slash carbon emissions and create a "green jobs revolution" if Labour returns to power.

Corbyn also tried to allay fears that Labour has become hostile to Jews under his leadership. Critics allege that the longtime critic of Israel's treatment of Palestinians has allowed anti-Semitic abuse to go unchecked.

In his speech, Corbyn vowed to "work with Jewish communities to eradicate anti-Semitism, both from our party and wider society." □

They said it: Leaders at the UN, in their own words



King Mswati III of Eswatini addresses the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2018, at the United Nations headquarters.

Associated Press

By The Associated Press
UNITED NATIONS (AP) — Lots of leaders saying lots of things about lots of topics — topics that matter to them, to their regions, to the world. That's what the speech-

making at the U.N. General Assembly invariably produces each year. And each year, certain enormous topics and certain louder voices dominate. Here, The Associated Press takes the opposite ap-

proach and spotlights some thoughts you might not have heard — the voices of leaders speaking at the United Nations who might not have captured the headlines and the air time on Wednesday.

— "We depend on each other, whether we like it or not." — Kersti Kaljulaidm, the president of Estonia.

— "My country has finally turned the corner, with more years of peace than the preceding years of war. ... But a nation which has experienced civil war must never take peace for granted, or forget the long shadow that years of conflict still cast over people's lives. We must realize and appreciate that ours is still a fragile peace."

— Liberian President George Manneh Weah, a former soccer star, who won his nation's presidency by a large margin this past January in Liberia's first independently run election since the end of its civil wars. The U.N. wrapped up a 15-year peacekeeping mission in Liberia at the end of March.

— "Today, it seems that playing by the rules has become old-fashioned — as if ignoring them was a sign of strength, and respect a sign of weakness." — Andrej Kiska, president of Slovakia.

— "To those countries experiencing conflict situations, we appeal to them to come up with homegrown solutions to address their

differences. We urge these nations to avoid the use of force in an attempt to impose change. Where they do not see eye to eye, they need to adopt dialogue as the best way to find lasting solutions. Where there is no loss of blood, unity prevails, whereas violence begets instability."

— King Mswati III of Eswatini, a tiny African nation that was known as Swaziland until it renamed itself earlier this year.

— "We do not think that a nation needs to remain poor or become poor for others to become prosperous. We believe that there is room, and there are enough resources on this planet for us all to be prosperous."

— Nana Akufo-Addo, president of Ghana. □

Egypt prosecutors probing monk's death in desert monastery

By HAMZA HENDAWI

Associated Press

CAIRO (AP) — In an incident that brought the woes of one of the world's oldest churches back under the spotlight, Egypt's Coptic Orthodox Church said on Wednesday that prosecutors are investigating the death of a monk who had until recently served in a monastery northwest of Cairo where the abbot was killed in July.

Two monks — one of whom has been defrocked — are on trial for the death of the abbot, Bishop Epiphanius. The trial opened Sunday and was scheduled to resume Thursday when, according to security officials, the deceased monk was to give his testimony.

The monk, identified by the church by his monastic name Zeinoun al-Maqari, was the "confessional father" of one of the monks on trial, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the media.



In this Feb. 5, 2013 file photo, clergymen walk through the gate of the historic al-Muharraq Monastery, a centuries-old site in the province of Assiut, Egypt.

Associated Press

The monk's death was announced in a brief statement issued by the Coptic Orthodox Church. It said the cause of his death at the al-Muharraq monastery in southern Egypt remained unknown. However, security and medical officials said they could not rule out

suicide. An initial examination of the body suggested that poisoning might have been the cause of death, they said.

A full autopsy to determine the cause of death was due to be performed, they said.

The body was kept under

tight security in a hospital in Assiut, the nearest city to Al-Muharraq monastery where the monk served since August. The monastery was also sealed off by police and security officers who were reviewing footage from its security cameras.

The church statement said Zeinoun was transferred to al-Muharraq monastery following Epiphanius' death. That suggested the monk may have been involved in a now-publicized disciplinary dispute between the abbot and several monks at St. Macarius, which required the intervention of the spiritual leader of the church, Pope Tawadros II. The security officials said Zeinoun's name also came up as a possible accomplice in the abbot's killing during lengthy questioning of witnesses by prosecutors. Zeinoun was one of six monks transferred out of St. Macarius monastery as part of efforts to instill greater discipline. At the time, the church slapped a yearlong suspension on the admission of novices, threatened to expel monks found to have established "illegal" monasteries and gave monks a month to shut down social media accounts. It also forbade unauthorized media interviews. □

Romanian ex-prison chief sentenced to 20 years dies in jail

ALISON MUTLER

BUCHAREST, Romania (AP) — Ion Ficior, who was incarcerated for the deaths of 103 political inmates while in charge of a communist-era labor camp in Romania, has died. He was 90. Ficior died Wednesday at Jilava prison hospital, according to Bianca Filotei, spokeswoman for the government Institute for Investigating the Crimes of Communism. The institute began to pursue Ficior and other former prison guards in 2013 in a bid to make them finally accountable for wrongdoing during the communist era, handing over evidence to prosecutors.

Prison hospital spokeswoman Denisa Ene confirmed to The Associated Press that a prisoner, suffering various chronic medical conditions, had died Wednesday morning, but declined to provide further details, citing privacy rules.



In this Thursday, Oct. 24, 2013, file picture, Ion Ficior, former commander of the Periprava communist labor camp, waits for registration at the general prosecutors office in Bucharest, Romania.

Associated Press

Ficior was serving a 20-year sentence there for crimes against humanity. He was imprisoned in March 2017, but denied wrongdoing and said he was merely fol-

lowing orders. But Andrei Muraru, who initiated the investigation of Ficior, said he "showed a complete lack of mercy toward his victims, who en-

dured prolonged suffering, were skeletal inmates, or defenseless elderly people," he told the AP. "They were subjected to a diabolic program of exter-

mination through exhausting work, hunger and physical torture," said Muraru, now an adviser to President Klaus Iohannis.

Ficior was commander at the Periprava labor camp from 1958 to 1963. During his trial, former detainees accused him of beatings, a lack of food and medicine, overwork and unheated cells. In an interview with the AP in 2013 before he was charged with more than 100 deaths, Ficior claimed "two or three had died" while he was prison commander.

Romania had about 500,000 political prisoners under the Communist regime, about one-fifth of whom died while in detention, according to historians. Many were locked up for merely falling afoul of the communist regime. A general amnesty was granted to political prisoners in 1964. Ficior is survived by a son. □

Asian victors may find anti-China campaign vows hard to keep

By EMILY SCHMALL

Associated Press

NEW DELHI (AP) — Three Muslim-majority Asian countries have elected leaders who campaigned on a promise to temper China's growing influence, but analysts say reducing the foothold of the world's second-largest economy won't be easy because of the billions of dollars in development projects that are already under way.

The surprising elections in recent months of nonagenarian Mahathir Mohamad in Malaysia, cricketer Imran Khan in Pakistan and long-time opposition lawmaker Ibrahim Mohamed Solih in the Maldives buck a regional trend toward authoritarianism, and could present an obstacle for Chinese President Xi Jinping's hallmark "Belt and Road Initiative" to build ports, highways and other trade-related infrastructure.

Countries including India, the U.S. and Japan are concerned that China's massive initiative is part of an effort to build a China-centric world order in which all roads lead to Beijing and their own influence is eroded.

Xi said in a late August closed-door event with officials in Beijing to mark the project's fifth anniversary that it was about business, not geopolitics.

"The projects are not free aid from China, but an economic cooperation, a kind of business deal," said Zhao Gancheng, a Shanghai Institute of Foreign Studies researcher.

New governments in Malaysia, Pakistan and the Maldives are free to decide they no longer want Chinese investment in these projects, Zhao said, but they should be prepared to compensate China accordingly. How newly elected governments could buy their way out of China's grasp remains to be seen.

MALAYSIA

Malaysia's former authoritarian leader Mahathir Mohamad led an opposition alliance to a stunning



This combination of file photos show, from left to right: then Malaysia's Prime Minister-elect Mahathir Mohamad, Maldives President-elect Ibrahim Mohamed Solih and Pakistan politician Imran Khan.

Associated Press

victory in May 9 elections, ushering in the country's first change of power since independence from Britain in 1957.

It led to a political earthquake for Malaysia, sweeping aside the government of Prime Minister Najib Razak, whose reputation was tarnished by a monumental corruption scandal and the imposition of an unpopular sales tax that hurt many of his coalition's poor rural supporters.

Mahathir, 93, was credited with modernizing Malaysia during his 22-year rule that ended in 2003 but was also known as a heavy-handed leader who imprisoned opponents and subjugated the courts. Angered by the graft scandal involving the 1MDB state investment fund, Mahathir emerged from political retirement and joined the opposition to oust Najib, his former protege.

Mahathir, the world's oldest elected leader, has reopened investigations into 1MDB and banned Najib and his wife from traveling abroad. Najib is facing 32 charges of criminal breach of trust, corruption, abuse of power and money laundering. He has denied any wrongdoing and his trial is to start next year.

Mahathir's government has also axed China-backed energy pipelines and a rail project along peninsular Malaysia's eastern coast as part of efforts to reduce na-

tional debt that it said worsened under Najib's rule. The projects were part of "Belt and Road" but Mahathir said the deals struck by Najib were too costly and unfair to Malaysia.

PAKISTAN

While in opposition, Pakistan's new prime minister, former cricket star Imran Khan, questioned whether a "Belt and Road" partnership with China benefited Pakistan. He promised the contracts would be made public, something the new government has yet to do. He also promised greater transparency moving forward on the multibillion-dollar project known as the China Pakistan Economic Corridor Project, which includes an ambitious cross-country road system linking Pakistan's Arabian Sea port of Gwadar to China.

The multi-level project was undertaken by Pakistan's previous government, although little is known about the details of the contracts with China and the debt Pakistan would incur as a result of these deals.

Khan promised to reveal all to Pakistanis, who have watched with a mix of enthusiasm and caution the development that has taken place in recent years as four-lane superhighways open up linking northern areas to other parts of the country. As well as road construction, Pakistan's previous

government also negotiated agreements with Chinese power companies to supply much needed electricity to energy-starved Pakistan. However, criticism has been loud about the terms of the agreements and the revolving debt costs to Pakistan.

Khan's earlier stridency has softened since July elections propelled him to power. In one of his first speeches to the nation as prime minister, Khan said Pakistan had much to learn from China, praising its economic development and an anti-corruption drive, which was the central plank of his Pakistan Insaf (Justice) Party platform.

Zhao, the Chinese researcher, was incredulous that Khan would oppose Chinese investment, given the massive amounts of money poured into Pakistan. "No Pakistan leader would risk damaging the country's relations with China," Zhao said.

MALDIVES

In the Maldives, an island nation southwest of India with around 400,000 people, Solih declared victory in Sunday's presidential election, an unexpected result against an incumbent government accused of suppression and the jailing of political opponents. Outgoing Maldives President Abdul Yameen Gayoom traveled to Beijing last year to sign a free-trade

deal that eliminates most tariffs on Maldivian exports, primarily fish, and opens the island nation to Chinese goods and services, including in finance, health care and tourism.

China is already the Maldives' primary source of tourists, whose spending largely drives the economy, and Beijing is investing hundreds of millions of dollars in an airport expansion, housing development and other projects.

China considers Maldives a key cog in "Belt and Road" projects following along ancient trade routes through the Indian Ocean and Central Asia.

The Center for Global Development, a Washington think tank, estimates China's loans to Maldives total at least \$1.3 billion, a quarter of the island nation's gross domestic product. The country is considered by the World Bank and the IMF to be at high risk of debt distress because of its vulnerability to outside shocks.

"The kind of debts the Chinese have subjected the Maldivians to, the effects of it will continue to linger on and Maldivians will have to continue to deal with it. We have seen it in Sri Lanka. Even if you have a change in government the dependency on China continues," said Ashok Behuria, a South Asia policy expert at the Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses in New Delhi. Solih's friend and the leader of his party, former Maldives President Mohamed Nasheed, has described China's growing influence as a land grab in the guise of investments in island development.

China congratulated Solih on his victory and said it would like the new Maldivian government to uphold the previous administration's policies toward China, including the free trade agreement.

While campaigning, Solih criticized the agreement, complaining that Parliament was only given five minutes to review a several-hundred-page document. □



STRONGEST MAN OF ARUBA
BEACH EDITION

SEP. 28, 29 & 30



STARTS 5PM (FRIDAY 7PM)

Partners: **NAGCO** **bright**
KOEPS MARINERS **FREIGHT 01843** **GS-MAX**



Marinierkazern Savenets

STRONGEST MAN OF ARUBA
COMPETITION AT MOOMBA BEACH

THREE EVENINGS OF CROSSFIT GAMES
RIGHT ON THE BEACH

**FREE ENTRANCE | LIVE MUSIC
DJ'S | BBQ | HAPPY HOURS**



Moomba BEACH
ARUBA
BAR & RESTAURANT

Located on the beach between Holiday Inn and Marriott's Surf Club, Palm Beach
T: +297 586 5365 - E: moombabeach@arubawineanddine.com - www.moombabeach.com

ARUBA WINE & DINE

f **t** **g** **o**

Cameroon lurches toward election amid separatist conflict

By EDWIN KINDZEKA MOKI
Associated Press

YAOUNDE, Cameroon (AP) — John Nlom has five children and wants to keep them alive. When machete-wielding men attacked a nearby school this month in a suspected strike against the teaching of French, wounded students were rushed to hospitals while frightened parents decided to flee.

Nlom and his family piled onto one of the dozens of buses now leaving daily from the capital of Cameroon's Southwest Region, joining thousands of civilians escaping bloody fighting between the government and Anglophone separatists who vow to disrupt next month's presidential elections.

The government of the largely French-speaking country insists the Oct. 7 vote will be peaceful, even in the troubled English-speaking southwest and northwest where nearly 400 people have died. Nlom, a teacher, could not take that chance.

"The governor himself who is saying that people should stay back, that they are protected, he is moving around with soldiers protecting him," Nlom said. "Will the soldiers protect all the people? That is the reason why I cannot stay." He and his family, like many, have taken refuge in the French-speaking city of Douala. President Paul Biya, one of Africa's longest-serving leaders since taking power since 1982, vows to hold the country together.

The separatists, with sup-



In this Sunday Oct 9, 2011 file photo, Cameroon President Paul Biya waves after casting his vote during the presidential elections in Yaounde, Cameroon.

Associated Press

port from some in the diaspora in the United States and elsewhere, are fighting to create an independent state they call "Ambazonia" in Cameroon's English-speaking northwest and southwest regions.

Their movement grew out of dissatisfaction with what some English speakers, who make up about 20 percent of the country's population, have called marginalization in the officially bilingual country. The blocking of the internet in English-speaking regions for months last year fed the frustrations.

The government describes the fighters as terrorists. Weary civilians caught in the fighting have pleaded for peace. Women, saying they can no longer remain silent, have gathered for protests, saying the vio-

lence keeps children from their studies. At least 70 schools have been burned. Last week, Muslim and Christian clerics announced they are afraid a wave of carnage could occur if peace is not found before the election.

"We call on the diaspora to stop the hate speech communication that promotes violence, suspicion and fear among the people of Cameroon," their declaration said.

The clerics asked both the military and armed groups to drop their guns and stop the killing, looting and burning that have sent nearly 200,000 civilians fleeing. The government, however, replied that only the separatists should drop their guns.

Attacks were reported in at

least 20 towns and villages over the weekend, according to the country's minister of territorial administration, Paul Atanga Nji. Casualty figures were not yet available, he said.

"We are happy that some of the terrorists have willingly handed their guns to the military and we have forgiven them," he said. "I call on all those who are still in the bushes to drop their arms and make use of the ballot if they want a change."

Human rights groups have accused both sides of abuses. Separatists have burned and crushed buses and used construction equipment to dig up roads in efforts to stop people from fleeing.

Some people leaving English-speaking regions have

said the military conducts searches on those trying to leave.

With the elections approaching, the tensions have grown.

Separatists on Friday blew up a key bridge to stop campaign teams from reaching communities, authorities said.

"The only bridge linking the northwest regional capital, Bamenda, with other localities like Bui and Donga was destroyed by the terrorists," said Lele L'Afrique Deben Tchoffo, governor of the Northwest Region. Thousands of passengers were stranded, he said.

In response, the military killed at least a dozen separatists near the northwestern town of Mbame as they planted explosives to blow up another bridge, the governor said.

People who have fled the English-speaking regions will not be able to vote if they don't return to the polling centers where they are registered, he warned.

In Cameroon's French-speaking areas, campaign rallies kicked off over the weekend in defiance of the separatist threat.

"We should not fear them. We should brave the situation and go about campaigning. The government has deployed troops to protect everyone," Prime Minister Philemon Yang told supporters in Bamenda while campaigning for the longtime president.

Biya is favored to win another seven-year term, as opposition parties did not succeed in negotiations to back a single candidate. □

Mexico president-elect criticized after reporter cheek-kiss

By PETER ORSI

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Mexico's president-elect has come under criticism over a video of him kissing a female reporter on the cheek after she asked him a question, the second recent incident in which some said he showed a lack of respect to women covering him.

The encounter came as Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, who won July's presidential vote, was in Tijuana as part of a nationwide thank-you tour ahead of his Dec. 1 inauguration.

In the video, Lorena Garcia of the local newspaper *El Mexicano* asks Lopez Obrador about next year's gubernatorial election in Baja California state, which is home to Tijuana. He smiles, does not answer, turns around, gives her a quick peck and then continues walking to his car.

Airy cheek-kisses between men and women are common as a casual greeting in Mexican culture, but less so for formal, professional encounters, especially involving people who do not know each other.

Garcia said in an interview with MVS radio that it was



Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, Mexico's president-elect, speaks to residents in the border town at Plaza Miguel Hidalgo, on Friday, Sept. 21, 2018, in Nogales, Sonora, Mexico.

Associated Press

the first time she had ever met Lopez Obrador in person and she found the gesture "inappropriate."

"We are working. We do not have the intention of receiving or seeking a greeting of this kind," Garcia said. "Understand that we are doing our job. It is not something that I would like to continue happening to me every time I go out to report."

The encounter took place Sept. 20 but only gained widespread attention this week as the video spread via social and traditional media.

Lopez Obrador was also criticized recently for addressing two women reporters as "sweethearts" when they tried to interview him through the window of his car.

In both cases, Lopez Obrado-

r's actions came as he declined to answer the female journalists' questions. "I am always going to treat you like this with great respect and affection," Lopez Obrador said about the earlier incident. Asked if it was sexist, he replied: "I have another vision, it is not like that." Lopez Obrador has raised eyebrows for his populist personal style, uncommon

for an elected president. He rolls around in an unarmored sedan, refuses armed bodyguards, has promised to sell off the presidential jet once in office and intends to live in his own home instead of the presidential residence.

He speaks to and takes questions from the media far more often than his predecessor, and that accessibility often leads to casual interactions with reporters and citizens — the likes of which are uncharted territory for Mexico.

Jesus Ramirez, who will be Lopez Obrador's press secretary after Dec. 1, told *El Universal* newspaper that the "sweethearts" remark was a normal interaction and he did not consider it an insult, but "if ... they feel offended, I accept and understand their annoyance." About the kiss, he said it reflected Lopez Obrador's personal style of interacting with many people.

"I think we have to put things in perspective," Ramirez was quoted as saying. "The journalist has a right to express her annoyance, and if she felt offended that must be pointed out because it is about respecting people." □

Study: Post-Maria contracts go to mainland, not Puerto Rico

By DANICA COTO
Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — A study published Wednesday found that the bulk of federal funds slated for post-hurricane reconstruction efforts in Puerto Rico are going to mainland companies, despite a federal provision that states local companies should receive priority.

Of the nearly \$5 billion allocated by the U.S. government by late August for work in Puerto Rico, nearly \$4.3 billion has been awarded to mainland U.S. firms and less than 10 percent to Puerto Rico companies, according to the study by the Center for a New Economy. The Puerto Rico-based think tank analyzed a federal database of contracts awarded



In this May 16, 2018 file photo, a worker from the Cobra Energy Company, contracted by the Army Corps of Engineers, installs power lines in the Barrio Martorel area of Yabucoa, a town where many residents continue without power in Puerto Rico.

Associated Press

through late August after Hurricane Maria hit the U.S. territory.

The study also found that of the 45 federal agencies that have awarded con-

tracts after the storm, 24 of them did not give any to Puerto Rican firms.

The findings have raised concerns that Puerto Rico will not see the expected

economic boost a year after the Category 4 storm hit and as the island is struggling to emerge from a 12-year recession.

"This popular notion that hurricanes and federal funds are going to lift the economy is not producing the results we're waiting for," said Deepak Lamba-Nieves, co-author of the study and the center's investigations director.

Most federal funds are going toward construction, followed by services including engineering, inspection and remediation, which have largely been awarded to U.S.-based firms. Meanwhile, local firms have been contracted for jobs including waste collection, security and roofing, he said.

The study also found that

the federal government spent almost \$12 billion in the first 336 days after Hurricane Katrina, more than double what has been spent so far in post-Maria contracts in Puerto Rico. Raul Santiago, co-author of the study and the center's research associate, noted that Katrina caused an estimated \$160 billion in damage, compared with the \$140 billion that Puerto Rico's government is requesting after Maria.

He said that current contracts could be amended to include more Puerto Rico companies.

A spokeswoman for the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency declined immediate comment, saying officials had not yet obtained a copy of the study. □

LOCAL



World Tourism Day Conference 2018 by A.T.A.



ORANJESTAD — World Tourism Day is a special occasion in which the Aruba Tourism Authority (ATA) will take the opportunity to not only bring awareness to the community on the importance of the tourism industry to our island but also to share knowledge in order to achieve the objective of "best practices." World

Tourism Day is Thursday September 27th and Aruba Tourism Authority will be conducting a conference which emphasizes the digital transformation of tourism and the impact that it has.

ATA has been following how digital advances has transform the way we connect and inform ourselves.

By transforming our way of doing things and encouraging innovation, we will learn the best possible ways of promoting Aruba as a tourist destination by acknowledging the essentials of understanding the economic, social, and technological impact and innovation of tourism.

"Tourism and the digital transformation" is the international theme according to the World Tourism Organization (WTO) for the World Tourism Day 2018. The conference will be conducted by 2 experts in this area. Daniel Newman, CEO of Broadsuite Media Group and co-founder of Futurum Research. He works with the biggest technology companies exploring digital transformation and the influence of this in the commerce.

The second moderator is Sam Sheffer, who works with different companies, specializes in technology such as Engadget, The Verge and Mashable, functioning as social media manager, photographer, writer, producer and editor.

Content of the conference is based on how the tour-

ism sector with its digital advances can get better commercial initiatives, inclusion and get the local community to participate. Also how to efficiently manage important objectives for development. The purpose of this year's World Tourism Day is to help explore more opportunities in the tourism industry, thanks to the technological advances such as big data, artificial intelligence and digital platforms.

Aruba Tourism Authority wants to wish all its members in the tourism sector a happy World Tourism Day. Remember to take a moment and reflect on our daily duties and renew our commitment to excel in our level of service and to offer the best experience to all visitors. □

Aruba's Tourism: Past and Present

ORANJESTAD — In the 1920s, Aruba had only a few visitors. Between 1924 and 1928, about 200 yachts, motor vessels, and tankers were registered, bringing American businessmen and visitors to the island. For many years since its opening in 1924, the Lago Oil Refinery was the main source of employment for the island of Aruba. In the 1950s, however, due to automation, many employees lost their jobs. To boost the economy, a new industry was sought, and the Dutch government proposed the most feasible choice—tourism.

In 1947, the Aruba Tourist Commission was established to promote and direct tourism on the island, with Ernst Bartels at the helm. In 1953, the commission officially became the Aruba Tourist Bureau (ATB). This was a small organiza-

tion with only two employees: Ernst Bartels remained chief, assisted by Casper Wever. The ATB continued the vital work of promoting Aruba as a tourism destination, especially in the United States, one of the key markets for the Caribbean.

The Caribbean Hotel, Aruba's first multi-story resort hotel, opened its doors in 1959, quickly becoming a favorite getaway for world-famous jet-setters. From that time until 1977, the number of hotels increased to 16, with five of them proudly housing their own casinos, and the total number of rooms reached 2,148. In the period from 1986 to 1996, tourism in Aruba grew at almost twice the rate of tourism in the entire Caribbean. From 1986, when the construction of hotels resumed, until 1991, the total number of rooms more than doubled

from 2,776 to 5,625. During this period, the number of timeshares also increased about fivefold, from 337 units to 1,967 units. By the end of 1996, there were 7,103 rooms, of which timeshare units totaled 2,272.

Tourism Today

Hotels are concentrated in two main areas: the high-rise area in Palm Beach and the low-rise area in Eagle Beach and Punta Brabo. The majority of today's hotels fall under foreign ownership, and many of them are international brands. Despite its increase in hotel capacity, Aruba enjoys one of the highest hotel occupancy rates in the Caribbean, averaging about 75% year-round. Aruba's popularity has remained consistent, due not only to the perfect combination of sun, sand, and sea, but also to the hospitality of its people, its

high level of safety, its political stability, and its success in various niches such as activities, nightlife, shopping, and restaurants.

Tourism in Aruba isn't just our livelihood; it has also become a part of our identity as a community.

Educating our youth about the importance of Aruba tourism has created a service-oriented and welcoming attitude among our people. Many of our visitors come for the beautiful beaches, but they return because they left the island feeling like family. □



We'd Love to Take you Home!



ORANJESTAD — Sgt. Pepper's Friends is a non-profit animal rescue organization founded and located in Aruba. Their dogs and cats are available for adoption in the United States, Canada, Aruba, the Netherlands and Sweden as of now.

Every country they add to the list requires careful research, but they hope open up to families in other countries in the future as well. The organization loves our beautiful island. However, the number of neglected, homeless, abandoned, sick and hungry dogs and cats wandering the streets is truly disturbing. Through donations and the hard work of their volunteers and their adoptive families, Sgt. Pepper's Friends are able to rescue many animals in need.

Happy September! Summer is coming to an end and we are so excited for temperatures to cool down. We love all the outdoor adventures with our furry friends, but the sum-

mer temperatures always make for some interesting challenges in getting adopted animals home. We are so grateful for our dedicated followers who have helped us get so much done this summer. We are looking forward to seeing what we can accomplish the rest of the year. As it is back to school season we thought we would take the opportunity this month to educate our community on all the ways to help and be part of the mission. Be sure to check out the many ways to help us help them below. Should you be ready to "Fall in Love" with your next furry family member, please go to our website for all our available animals. We have so many (older) puppies, (young)

adults, kittens and cats waiting for forever homes, maybe one of them is the perfect match for you!

Ways to Help - Help Us Help Them

Did you know there are many ways how you and your friends or family can help us make a change in the lives of the animals in Aruba?

1 Donate As we are a non-profit organization relying solely on donations, any financial support towards the (veterinary) care of our animals is very welcome.

2 Bring supplies or Send Supplies

We can always use small supplies for our rescue dogs and cats. From collars to toys and anti-flea & tick products, to soft airline approved carriers and travel crates, all supplies are very much needed here. When visiting Aruba, you can also help us help them by buying dog or cat food here locally and donate that to our rescues.

3 Transport

As most of our rescues are adopted to the USA and Canada, we are always looking for flight volunteers to help bring our rescues home. This process is very easy and rewarding! We arrange everything, from booking and paying for the rescue on your flight, to meeting you at the airport with the dog or cat and its papers, supplies and connect you with the adoptive family who will be waiting for you at baggage claim upon arrival. Please email us your flight date, airline and schedule should you want to help bring one of our rescues to their forever home. You can also fill in our flight volunteer form on our website under "Get Involved": <http://www.sgtpeppersfriends.com/flight-volunteer-form/>



HELP US HELP THEM BY BECOMING A FLIGHT VOLUNTEER!

We promise you that transporting is a very rewarding experience and one of the most valuable ways to make a difference.

Email: info@sgtpeppersfriends.com
 Website: www.sgtpeppersfriends.com
 Instagram: [@sgtpeppersfriends](https://www.instagram.com/sgtpeppersfriends)
 Facebook: Sgt. Pepper's Friends

4 Volunteer

Should you want to make a bigger difference, we take fulltime volunteers for periods of a minimum of 4 weeks up until 3 months. We also have shorter part time volunteering options for people vacationing here, including dog walk-

ing with our rescue dogs and helping with feeding/cleaning/caring duties of the puppies and cats at our new property.

5 Adopt

Are you looking to expand your family with a furry friend? We have many puppies, kittens, cats and dogs looking for homes.

6 Spread the Word

Not planning on visiting Aruba any time soon? That's ok! Sharing information about this organization or about adoptable animals is a huge way to support the mission. The more animals adopted and transported to forever homes, the more we can rescue. If you know anyone visiting Aruba be sure to pass along information about transporting or connect them with us on social media.

Looking for a forever home Let us introduce you to our rescue of the month: Cheese! This guy was found on a Saturday afternoon last February, walking in front of the veterinary office. Clearly not neutered, confused, but super friendly we knew we had to step in, so we took him into the veterinary office. This handsome, social cat did not deserve to be left wandering outside. Fast forward to present day our super friendly, playful and cuddly boy is still waiting while, he basically is the perfect package. Lately we noticed that he is getting a little bit sad about not getting the most attention at the cattery where he is staying, while he is a very interactive cat. He gets along great with our other rescue cats at the Sgt. Pepper's Friends home and we are sure he would adjust to a dog in a household too. All our volunteers are in love with this boy and we are baffled that nobody has yet submitted an application form to adopt this red tabby kitty. Please consider making this handsome guy part of your family, he will make a great addition to any cat loving home. □

- Join the Players' Club and **WIN UP TO \$1,000 IN FREE SLOT PLAY — Guaranteed!**

BONUS B I N G O THURSDAY!

Bonus 4-Card BINGO
starting at 1pm!

\$6 for 4-Card BINGO | 8 Games to Play

**\$1,000 in
Cash Prizes**

Additional \$500 Cash Prize in our Monthly Early Bird Drawing when you purchase your card before noon!

THE SHOPS AT ALHAMBRA CASINO

Offering a wide variety of Retail & Dining Outlets,
Salon & Spa Services, Souvenirs and more.

Subway | Juan Valdez Café | Dunkin Donuts | Baskin-Robbins
Fusion Piano & Wine Bar | TOF Twist of Flavors | Aruba Aloe
WE'R CUBA | Bijoux Terner Boutique | R-Glass | Curated Lab
Hungry Piranha | The Lazy Lizard | The Market
Shalom Body & Soul Spa | The Collectables

Alhambra
CASINO AND SHOPS

Open daily 10am to 4am | J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47

583.5000 | casinoalhambra.com

Honoring loyal and friendly visitors at the Marriott Ocean Club

ORANJESTAD — Recently, Darline de Cuba of Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure to honor Loyal and Friendly visitors of Aruba as Distinguished Visitors & Goodwill Ambassadors. The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, Transportation, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20 and more consecutive years.

The Honorees are Ronald & Ellen Miller residents of California, Edward & Helen Marasak-Smith residents of Lehigh Acres Florida and Jerry & Betty Carter residents of Connecticut, who have been coming to Aruba for many consecutive years and are staying at the Marriott Ocean Club. The honorees love the weather, the people of Aruba and the breathtaking sunsets.

Darline together with the Lisette Bouwman of the Marriott Ocean Club presented the certificate to the honorees and handed over some presents to them and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years. □



Atelier's 89 presents "Three women, about slavery and freedom"



MORE GIVEAWAYS



LIFETIME Vacation Villas GIVEAWAY

VALUED AT \$15,000

10 POINTS = 1 ENTRY
STARTING AUGUST 15, 2018

DRAWING

SEPTEMBER 29, 2018 | 8PM - 11PM

TROPICANA
ARUBA RESORT & CASINO
Vacation Villas

Actual Villa Model may vary. See TROP ADVANTAGE® CENTER for official rules and details. Must be 18 years old to play Slots and Table Games or to receive TROP ADVANTAGE® Card Benefits. The Lifetime Vacation Villa winner has 30 days to claim the prize. Management reserves all rights.

+297 587 9000 | TROPARUBA.COM
J.E. IRASQUIN BLVD. | 248 NOORD | ARUBA DUTCH CARIBBEAN
Must be 18 or older to play. Play responsibly. Gambling problem? Call 1-800-996-0550.
or visit www.gamblersanonymous.org. Certain restrictions apply. ©2018



MORE OFFERS
REWARDS
CHOICES

TROPICANA.
ARUBA RESORT & CASINO
A TROPICANA ENTERTAINMENT PROPERTY

have also left behind a spiritual legacy that becomes visible in the prayers, rituals and songs that Marian Markelo shares with us. The documentary Three Women is an expression of the global movement, in which black people and people of color draw strength and pride from their history.

Ida Does has artistically interwoven the stories and experiences [of the Three Women] into a comprehensive account about a shared history: slavery and the colonial history of the Netherlands. She has managed to wrap something unspeakably horrible in beauty, while remaining gentle and advocating recognition, reconciliation and a shared future. That's an achievement. Her message is: recognition, healing and connection. Let's hope that Ida Does and all who have contributed to this penetrating and gorgeous documentary succeed in their purpose."

ORANJESTAD — Atelier's 89, has the honor to present a documentary titled "Three women, about slavery and freedom. A documentary film by Ida Does. The film portrays three (contemporary) women: researcher Ellen-Rose Kambel, Winti priestess Marian Markelo and heritage expert Valika Smeulders.

With Ellen-Rose Kambel, Valika Smeulders, and Marian Markelo in the leading role, this documentary is a cinematic plea for the clear recognition of slavery in the memory of the Netherlands. The moment when researcher Ellen-Rose Kambel came face to face with a picture of the slave owner of her ancestors will always stay in her mind. It forms the starting point of a feverish search for her family history. She realizes that enslaved people remain unknown, without biographical story. Kambel is doing everything to get closer to the life of her ancestors. In the film this leads to unprecedented encounters with descendants of the slave owner of her ancestors.

Valika Smeulders is a tour guide in the historic city center of The Hague, where she regularly makes new discoveries about personal stories that took place behind these stately façades. The urban landscape is closely linked to the centuries-long slave trade and slavery. Those centuries

About the Director:

Ida Does was born in Suriname and worked in the Netherlands, Surinam and Aruba as a teacher, journalist and documentary filmmaker. Her work contains themes from (colonial) history, art, culture and social justice. She has worked as an independent filmmaker since 2007 and her films have been awarded at international film festivals. In 2017, Does received the CineFam Award at the Caribbean Tales International Film Festival in Toronto (Canada) as the best female director of color. Her film 'Amsterdam, traces of sugar' (2017) also received the award for 'best documentary' in Toronto.

Reviews

The Hague Film Commissioner Ing Lim calls the film "a masterful documentary" about "our history of slavery."

'Ida Does has succeeded in packaging something unspeakable horrible in beauty.' Claire Schut, writer (Joop.nl) □

SPORTS



Europe's Sergio Garcia celebrates for fans after passed on the ninth during a practice round for the 2018 Ryder Cup in Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, outside Paris, France, Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2018.

Associated Press

'Everyone loves Sergio': Garcia proving worth at Ryder Cup

By STEVE DOUGLAS

SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES, France (AP) — As the missed cuts mounted, Sergio Garcia started to fear his status as a constant in Europe's Ryder Cup team was coming to an end.

He was a major champion at long last. His Ryder Cup record — 22 1/2 points in eight appearances — spoke for itself. His gravitas in European golf was not in question.

But his form wasn't quite there and he knew it.

"It feels like it's kind of getting a little farther away," Garcia said, recalling the doubts that set in after failing to make the weekend in all four majors. "You still kind of see it, but it starts to get too far away."

As it turned out, there was no need to worry. Thomas Bjorn was so convinced about Garcia's importance to the European cause, as much in the team room as on the course, that he was always going to pick the Spaniard as one of his four wild-card selections.

Continued on Page 23

CAUGHT KNAPP-ING



Rox take over 2nd wild card spot

Philadelphia Phillies' Andrew Knapp reacts after a strike during the seventh inning of the team's baseball game against the Colorado Rockies on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, in Denver.

Associated Press
Page 21

American stars seek European success in the Ryder Cup

By DOUG FERGUSON

SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES, France (AP) — The American team at the Ryder Cup is one of the strongest ever.

It features nine players who have combined to win 31 major championships, nearly half of those by Tiger Woods, who signaled his return last week by winning the Tour Championship. It has Dustin Johnson, who is back at No. 1 in the world. One of only three Ryder Cup rookies on the team is Justin Thomas, who already has won a major and reached No. 1 in the world. Europe?

That's the team that usually wins the Ryder Cup, especially at home.

These are not "mops" on the European team, the word Thomas Bjorn used to describe two of his captain's picks.

Europe has five major champions, four players among the top 10 in the

world. It can make a case as one of the best teams since the days of the "Big Five" in the late 1980s when Seve Ballesteros, Nick Faldo, Bernhard Langer, Ian Woosnam and Sandy Lyle began this run of European dominance.

But it's not about what they achieved before getting to the Ryder Cup.

It's about who they become playing under a flag, for a tour, and playing for each other.

"I think that the strength of Europe has been we all get behind one another, and even whatever differences we may have, we put them to the side for this week and we're a cohesive unit," Rory McIlroy said Tuesday. "And that's the way we try to be." These are two of the strongest teams, the first time the Ryder Cup has ever featured all 10 players from the world ranking.

That only raises the anticipation when the matches



Jordan Spieth of the US, Patrick Reed, Tiger Woods and Justin Thomas, from left, walk to the 18th green during a practice round for the Ryder Cup at Le Golf National in Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, outside Paris, France, Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2018. The 42nd Ryder Cup will be held in France from Sept. 28-30, 2018 at Le Golf National.

Associated Press

start Friday on the first tee at Le Golf National before a grandstand that has just under 7,000 seats. Adding to the plot is that the Americans are defending champions for only the third time since 2002.

Ultimately, the Ryder Cup is decided by who keeps the ball in play, especially with

the thick rough at Le Golf National, and who makes putts. Europe, however, has a spirit about it that has allowed for a spotless record at home the last 25 years. Webb Simpson is playing his third Ryder Cup and already has seen 23 players from Europe on those three teams. But it's not about names. "I think they are strong every year in the Ryder Cup no matter who is on the team, or what form they are in," Simpson said. "They have a great team, obviously. They get the Ryder Cup well. You know, 2016 was a great example of how we're getting the Ryder Cup ... we're getting a lot better."

The Americans showed that at Hazeltine, the first year after the Ryder Cup Task Force intended to build a model of continuity. It's the European way, and the U.S. can only hope it will end 25 years of losing the Ryder Cup away from home.

It helps that so many of their young players are friends outside the Ryder Cup, even outside golf. Thomas and Jordan Spieth have been close since they were 14 and picked to represent the U.S. at the Evian Junior Masters — in France, no less. Thomas and Rickie Fowler are neighbors in Florida. Brooks Koepka spent

the Saturday night before his first U.S. Open victory on the phone with Dustin Johnson (it wasn't a long conversation).

"The American team has become a little more cohesive in the last few years, and I think that's to do with the younger guys coming on board and really embracing the Ryder Cup and making it a very important part of their careers," McIlroy said. "You've seen Jordan and Rickie and J.T. and those guys. They hang out together. They spend a lot of time together, and it seems like the togetherness is just a little bit more than maybe it used to be back in the '90s and early 2000s." Come Friday, it's about making putts and winning the 18th hole, something Woods believes has held the U.S. back, especially overseas.

Europe still likes to play the underdog role, even having won eight of the last 11 times in the Ryder Cup. It has reason to feel like one in France with such a loaded lineup the Americans offer. Then again, it was like that in 1997 at Valderrama when the Americans had five major champions and eight players among the top 15. Europe had two of the top 15 in the world — Faldo and Colin Montgomerie. Europe won. □

welcome to Aruba

Get more data & value
on our lightning fast LTE network.

1.3 GB
on a
7 day
plan

Visit a Digicel
store today.

Digicel

Rohan Dennis beats Dumoulin for world time trial title

INNSBRUCK, Austria (AP) — Rohan Dennis has finally won the only major time trial title lacking from his long list of victories.

And he has done so in style. The Australian rider won gold at the road world championships on Wednesday, dominating the 52.5-kilometer race to beat last year's winner Tom Dumoulin by a massive 1 minute, 21.09 seconds. Victor Campenaerts, who won the European title in Glasgow last month, was 0.53 seconds behind in third.

"I can't really explain it, it's an amazing feeling," said Dennis, who has won time trials in all three Grand Tours, including one in the Giro d'Italia and two in the Vuelta this year.

Dennis had won gold in the team time trial with the BMX Racing Team in 2014 and 2015, but was still after his first individual world title. "It's a dream come true,"

he said. "I have been chasing this since I was a junior. I have never won it in any age group, so to win the first one in the seniors is very special."

The course through the Austrian Alps was rather flat for the first 30 kilometers, until a five-kilometer climb from Fritzens to Gnadenwald with an average gradient of 7.1 percent.

Dennis was the fastest from the start. He already led Dumoulin by nearly nine seconds at the first split after 16.5 kilometers and built on his advantage in the steep second part of the course, where he increased his advantage to just over a minute.

The defeat left Dumoulin in disbelief, and he shook his head several times while staring down on his bike after he crossed the line. It was his second silver at these worlds, after a runner-up finish with Team Sunweb in Sunday's team time trial,

which was won by Quick Step.

Dennis and Dumoulin were widely regarded as the gold favorites.

The Dutchman beat Dennis in the opening stage of the Giro, but Dennis won a longer time trial later that event.

While Dumoulin took a break from racing after finishing second in both the Giro and Tour de France, Dennis used the Vuelta as his preparation for the world championships.

The victory made him only the second Australian to claim the world time trial title, after Michael Rogers won three straight from 2003-05.

Trying to match that feat was not on his mind, he said shortly after finishing.

"I am just going to enjoy the moment, and enjoy the next year in the rainbows (jersey)," Dennis said.

The road races at the world championships take place



Winner Rohan Dennis of Australia, center, is flanked by second placed Tom Dumoulin of the Netherlands, left, and third placed Victor Campenaerts of Belgium at the men's individual time trial at the Road Cycling World Championships in Innsbruck, Austria, Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2018.

Associated Press

this weekend, with the women competing on Saturday and the men the following day. □



Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: Hook and Cook your Own Fish!



Captain Herby would catch the fish to be served at the restaurant the same day. That concept still lives, what is 'hooked' during the day is cooked in the evening at the restaurant.

Herby shares his experience with his crew, who take out guests daily on their tournament rigged 35ft twin engine

Bertram "Driftwood" or on their more spacious 37ft twin engine Bertram called "Living Easy". Both yachts are available for charters from 8am to 12 noon, or from 1 to 5pm (6-hour trips also available). To book a fishing charter visit www.driftwoodfishingcharters.com or call Herbert direct at (297)-5924040.



Have an authentic seafood dining experience at Driftwood Restaurant, situated in the characteristic downtown Oranjestad. This comfortable downtown restaurant has a long tradition (30 years) of serving the freshest fish, the biggest shrimp, and the most succulent Caribbean Lobster.

Opening Hours: 5:00pm to 10.30pm (closed on Sundays)

For reservations visit www.driftwoodaruba.com or call (297)-5832515

Address: Klipstraat 12. Oranjestad, Aruba



Oranjestad- Renaissance Marina Downtown is home to the Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood. Herby senior and Herby junior both share a passion and love for fishing. They know what the local waters have to offer and what fresh fish really means. Over 30 years ago, the idea for the fishing charter was born.

Rams are unanimous top team in latest AP Pro32 poll

By SIMMI BUTTAR

NEW YORK (AP) — The Los Angeles Rams continue to be box office gold for the NFL.

The Rams are off to a 3-0 start after handling the Chargers 35-23 in an all-LA matchup on Sunday.

They also are the unanimous top team in the latest AP Pro32 poll.

The Rams received all 12 first-place votes and 384 points in balloting Tuesday by media members who regularly cover the NFL.

They open Week 4 by hosting the Minnesota Vikings on Thursday night in a matchup of NFC powerhouses.

"Jared Goff is looking like a Pro Bowl quarterback under wunderkind coach Sean McVay, and the Rams are looking like a Super Bowl contender after a splendid early season run," said Newsday's Bob Glabber.

The unbeaten Kansas City Chiefs moved up two spots to No. 2. The Chiefs close out Week 4 with a prime-time matchup at Denver against the Broncos on



Los Angeles Rams running back Todd Gurley, top, breaks away from Los Angeles Chargers defensive back Derwin James during the second half in an NFL football game Sunday, Sept. 23, 2018, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Monday night.

"Patrick Mahomes has been a revelation, but the

Chiefs get the second spot behind the Rams because of their porous defense,

which is yielding more than 30 points and 474 yards per game," said Jenny Vrentas of The Monday Morning Quarterback.

The Philadelphia Eagles continued to bounce around the top 10 in the poll. The Eagles were No. 2 after the first week of the regular season. They fell to No. 7 after losing to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers but rose to No. 3 after edging the Indianapolis Colts 20-16 in Carson Wentz's first game since December, when he tore two ligaments in his knee.

The Jacksonville Jaguars dropped two places to No. 4 after their field goal-filled 9-6 loss to AFC South rival Tennessee.

Led by Drew Brees, the New Orleans jumped 10 spots to No. 5 after topping the Atlanta Falcons 43-37 in overtime.

"As Drew Brees closes in on the NFL record book, it appears New Orleans has recovered nicely from that Week 1 stunner vs. Tampa Bay," said Ira Kaufman of Fox 13 in Tampa, Florida.

The Miami Dolphins, who are off to a surprising 3-0 start, also made a major move. The AFC East leaders moved up seven places to No. 6. The Dolphins face

another big test this week when they travel to Foxborough to face the suddenly slumping Patriots, who have lost two in a row and fell five spots to No. 10.

The Patriots have overcome slow starts before and still reached the Super Bowl, and they now have three consecutive home games to try to make up ground in the division.

Another team making a big climb was the Carolina Panthers, who jumped five spots to No. 7 after defeating Cincinnati 31-21.

"Found a running game," Fox Sports' John Czarnecki said of the Panthers, who finished with 230 rushing yards in the victory. Christian McCaffrey led the way with a career-high 184 yards.

The Vikings went in the opposite direction as they dropped five spots to No. 8 after getting routed at home by Buffalo 27-6.

And the Baltimore Ravens regained their footing as they climbed seven spots to No. 9 after handling the Broncos 27-14.

The Ravens have a key game in Week 4 as they head to Pittsburgh on Sunday night to face the Steelers in one of the NFL's fiercest rivalries. □

HAPPY World Tourism Day

costa(linda) beach resort

The donkeys have moved to...

BRINGAMOSA

DONKEY SANCTUARY ARUBA

For directions or information: www.arubandonkey.org or call 593 2933



Jeep Tour Safari

Drive your own Jeep Wrangler or Kia Sportage, or (be a passenger) through the Country side, explore Aruba's secret beaches that you would never on your own, we'll present Aruba's total topside history by jeep with the Island's best guides pointing out the way and stopping at the most iconic sites the island has to offer, such as Indian Caves, National Park, Baby Beach & more...optional join us for a nice Sailing & Snorkeling cruise after your Jeep Tour.

Visit us at Casa del Mar, Playa Linda, Holiday Inn Concierge/lobby desk/ beach huts, RIU Hut between Antilla & Palace Hotel on the beach, or at our own Pelican Pier located between the Holiday Inn & Playa Linda Resort. For reservations call 587-2302 (Mon-Sun) Or book online at: www.pelican-aruba.com



PRESENT THIS AD AND RECEIVE
\$10 DISCOUNT PER COUPLE

A Dahl's house: Dahl homers, Rox take 2nd wild-card spot

By The Associated Press

DENVER (AP) — David Dahl homered for a second straight night, a three-run shot in the third, and the Colorado Rockies vaulted into the final NL wild-card spot by beating the Philadelphia Phillies 10-3 on Tuesday night.

The Rockies' fifth straight win moved them a half-game in front of St. Louis for the second wild-card after the Cardinals lost 12-4 to Milwaukee. Colorado trailed the NL West-leading Los Angeles Dodgers by 1½ games entering the night and still has a chance to win its first division title. The Rockies have five games remaining.

The game-changing hit was delivered by Dahl, who lined a fastball from Vince Velasquez (9-12) to left for his 12th homer — nearly to the same spot where Dahl hit a two-run homer the previous night. Dahl also added a run-scoring single as part of a 3-for-5, 4-RBI evening.

The Rockies used seven relievers, with DJ Johnson (1-0) getting one out in the third to earn his first big league win.

BREWERS 12, CARDINALS 4

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Christian Yelich homered and drove in six runs, and surging Milwaukee hurt St. Louis' playoff chances.

Ryan Braun went deep twice and Jesus Aguilar also connected as Milwaukee won for the fifth time in six games and moved within one-half game of the NL Central-leading Chicago Cubs. Manny Pina had two hits and drove in a run, and pitcher Gio Gonzalez contributed an RBI single for just his fourth hit of the season.

The Cardinals (87-71) fell one-half game behind the Colorado Rockies (87-70), who beat Philadelphia 10-3, for the second NL wild card. Milwaukee (91-67) leads Colorado by 3½ games for the top wild card.

Milwaukee scored each of its first six runs with two outs. Aguilar and Braun hit back-to-back homers in the first off rookie Austin Gomber (6-2), and Gonzalez chased the left-hander with his hit in the fourth.

Gonzalez lasted four innings. Taylor Williams (1-3), the third of seven Milwaukee pitchers, got three outs for the win.

PIRATES 6, CUBS 0

CHICAGO (AP) — Slugger Kris Bryant exited with a bruised left wrist, Mike Montgomery got hit hard over four-plus innings and the Chicago Cubs stumbled again in their playoff run by losing to Pittsburgh. The Cubs missed a chance to clinch a franchise-record fourth straight trip to the postseason for the second time in as many nights. And their lead in the NL Central over Milwaukee shrunk to a half game, with the Brewers beating St. Louis 12-4.

Chicago needed a win plus a loss by Colorado to Philadelphia to secure a playoff spot and extend a run that includes a drought-ending World Series championship in 2016. But the Cubs lost for the fourth time in six games while the Rockies won 10-3.

Bryant got struck by a pitch from Chris Archer (3-3) in the fourth inning and was replaced at third base in the sixth by Ian Happ, who had pinch hit in the fifth.

Montgomery (5-6) gave

up five runs and seven hits, and the Cubs got shut out for the 11th time this season.

NATIONALS 9, MARLINS 4

WASHINGTON (AP) — Max Scherzer became the 17th pitcher since 1900 to strike out 300 batters in a season, reaching that milestone by fanning 10 in seven innings during Washington's otherwise meaningless win over Miami.

Scherzer (18-7) lowered his ERA to 2.53 by allowing one run in seven innings as he bids for a third consecutive NL Cy Young Award; he also won the 2013 honor in the AL for Detroit.

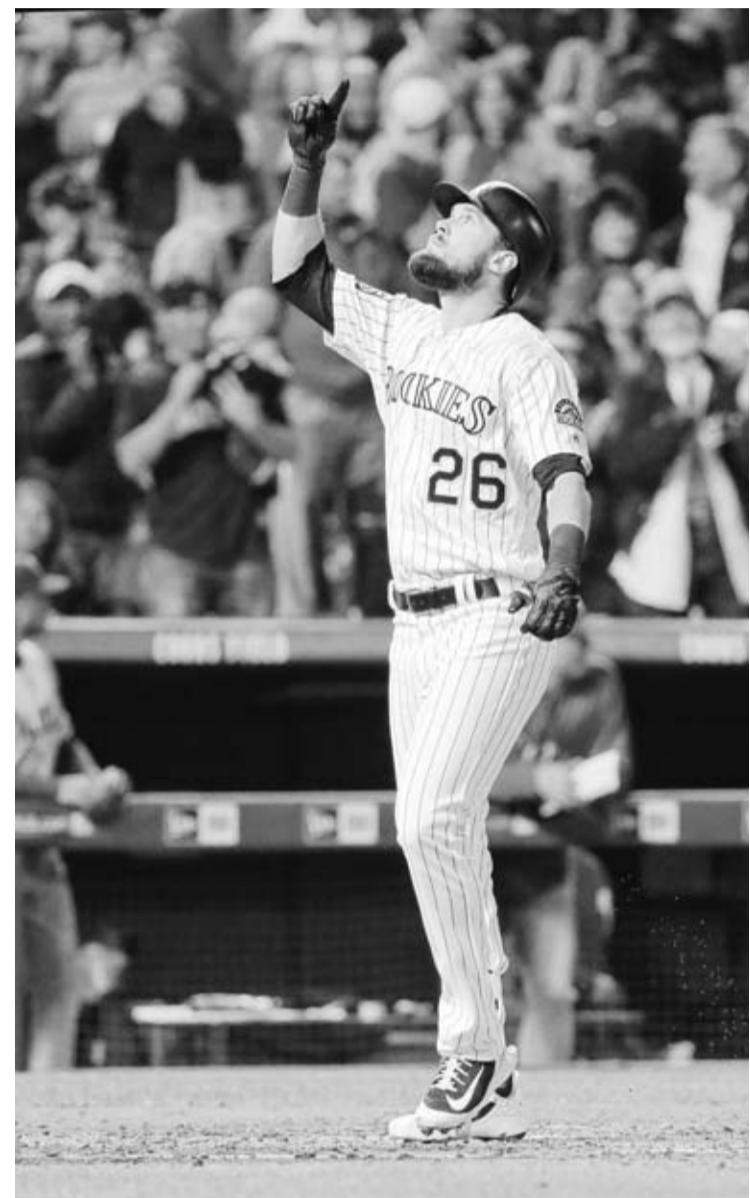
The righty reached the 300-strikeout mark by getting Austin Dean to whiff on an 85-mph slider at the end of a 10-pitch at-bat for the second out of the seventh. Washington's Anthony Rendon hit a three-run shot in the first inning off Jeff Brigham (0-4), increasing his season totals to 24 homers and 90 RBIs and extending his streak of reaching base to 33 straight games.

BRAVES 7, METS 3

NEW YORK (AP) — Ronald Acuna Jr. hit a go-ahead single in the seventh inning, Ozzie Albies homered in the eighth and NL East champion Atlanta rallied past New York for its sixth straight victory. Atlanta shortstop Dansby Swanson exited early with a sore left hand, and the Braves were held scoreless by Noah Syndergaard for six innings. But they

jumped all over the Mets' bullpen for seven runs in the next two innings to match their longest winning streak of the season.

Mets captain David Wright was reinstated from the 60-day disabled list before



Colorado Rockies' David Dahl (26) points to the sky as he crosses home plate after hitting a three run home run against the Philadelphia Phillies during the third inning of a baseball game on Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, in Denver.

Associated Press

the game but did not play even though he was available off the bench.

Kurt Suzuki drove in two runs for the Braves, who trailed 3-0 before rallying against Robert Gsellman (6-3) in the seventh. Acuna's two-run single off Drew Smith gave Atlanta a 4-3 lead. Dan Winkler (4-0) allowed a run in one inning for the win.

ROYALS 4, REDS 3

CINCINNATI (AP) — Hunter Dozier led off the ninth inning with a tie-breaking home run, lifting Kansas City over Cincinnati.

Dozier's 11th homer of the season, off Raisel Iglesias (2-5), left Kansas City need-

ing two wins in its last five games to avoid tying the franchise record of 106 losses in a season, set in 2005.

Kevin McCarthy (5-4) worked out of a bases-loaded, no-out jam in the eighth and earned the win. The Reds loaded the bases again in the ninth with two outs against Wily Peralta. But Joey Votto grounded out and Peralta earned his 14th save.

DIAMONDBACKS 4, DODGERS 3

PHOENIX (AP) — Eduardo Escobar homered off Kent Maeda leading off the ninth inning, and the Arizona Diamondbacks tightened the NL West race. □

Astros clinch 2nd straight AL West title, win 100th

By The Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — The Houston Astros clinched another AL West title and reached 100 wins for the second straight season, beating the Toronto Blue Jays 4-1 Tuesday night behind Alex Bregman's two-run homer. Houston improved to 100-57 and was assured of first place hours later when second-place Oakland (95-63) lost at Seattle. The Astros will open the Division Series at home against Cleveland on Oct. 5.

The Astros need three wins in their final five games to break the franchise record for victories in a season, set in 1998.

Houston is 18-4 in September and 54-22 on the road, both best in the major leagues.

Roberto Osuna needed just six pitches in the ninth for his 20th save in 21 chances. Earlier Tuesday, assault charges against Osuna were dropped because

the complainant, who lives in Mexico, made clear she would not travel to Toronto to testify.

Josh James (2-0) allowed one run and four hits in five innings in his third big



Houston Astros relief pitcher Roberto Osuna (54) celebrates with catcher Martin Maldonado (15) after the Astros defeated the Toronto Blue Jays in a baseball game Tuesday, Sept. 25, 2018, in Toronto.

Associated Press

league start.

Bregman went 2 for 5 and extended his club-record streak of reaching base safely on the road to 53 games.

Bregman hit his 31st homer, a two-run drive in the first

off Sam Gaviglio. Billy McKinney's sixth homer cut the gap in half in the third, but Houston widened its lead in the sixth when Tyler White chased Gaviglio with an RBI single and pinch-hitter Evan Gattis had a sacrifice

fly off Danny Barnes. Gaviglio (3-9) allowed four runs — three earned — and six hits in five-plus innings, his fifth straight winless outing. MARINERS 10, ATHLETICS 8, 11 INNINGS SEATTLE (AP) — Pinch-hitter

Chris Herrmann's two-run homer in the 11th inning gave Seattle a 10-8 win over Oakland and clinched the AL West for Houston, leaving the Athletics with a wild-card matchup against the New York Yankees.

Seattle overcame an 8-5 eighth-inning deficit and dropped the A's 2 1/2 games behind the Yankees for home-field advantage in the Oct. 3 winner-take-all matchup. Oakland had been 68-0 when leading after seven innings.

Denard Span hit a two-run double off Fernando Rodney in the eighth.

Blake Treinen was one strike from closing out his 38th save in the ninth, but Nelson Cruz punched a two-out single, Ryon Healy reached when third baseman Matt Chapman bobbled his grounder for an error and Kyle Seager hit an RBI single. Treinen had allowed just one hit in his previous 13 appearances. Ben Gamel walked with one out in the 11th against Emilio Pagan (3-1), and Herrmann batted for Andrew Romine and sent an 0-1 fastball out to deep right-center field. □



Los Angeles Angels' Shohei Ohtani, of Japan, rounds the bases after his home run against the Texas Rangers during the first inning of a baseball game in Anaheim, Calif., Monday, Sept. 24, 2018.

By GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) — Los Angeles Angels two-way rookie Shohei Ohtani will have Tommy John surgery next week.

The Angels confirmed Ohtani's long-expected decision on elbow ligament replacement Tuesday. Dr. Neal ElAttrache will

perform the surgery in Los Angeles.

"I think it was the proper decision Shohei made to have surgery, and the sooner the better," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said before his club faced the Texas Rangers, with Ohtani batting cleanup as the designated hitter.

Ohtani won't be able to

Angels' Shohei Ohtani to have Tommy John surgery in October

pitch for the Angels in 2019, but he is likely to hit at some point early next season. When asked whether Ohtani is likely to be ready for opening day as a hitter, Scioscia said there are "too many variables" to make a confident prediction.

Ohtani wasn't available to reporters before the game, but Scioscia confirmed general manager Billy Eppler's earlier statements that the Angels are committed to Ohtani's determination to be a two-way player in the majors.

"It obviously puts him out of pitching in 2019, but he'll be able to hit, and I think he's at peace with that," Scioscia said. "He wants to excel at both phases of the game. The fact he can't

pitch (next season), there is a little bit of a void. But he'll be able to hit and focus on that."

Ohtani went 4-2 with a 3.31 ERA and 63 strikeouts in 10 mostly outstanding starts for the Angels, but he has pitched just once since early June after developing a strained right elbow. He returned to the mound Sept. 2 but incurred more damage to his elbow ligament.

The 24-year-old Ohtani has continued as the Angels' designated hitter. He is batting .280 with 56 RBIs after hitting his 21st homer Monday.

Ohtani is a top contender for the AL Rookie of the Year award despite his truncated pitching season.

With just 347 plate appearances, he is leading all AL rookies in on-base percentage (.361), slugging percentage (.564) and OPS (.925), while his 21 homers are fourth among AL rookies.

He is the first player in major league history to hit at least 15 homers and strike out at least 50 batters in a single season, and he joined Babe Ruth as the only players ever to hit 15 homers and pitch 50 innings. Ohtani and Ruth are the only players since 1900 to hit 10 homers while winning at least four games.

Ohtani also has set the big league record for homers by a Japanese-born rookie, surpassing Kenji Johjima's 18 homers in 2006. □

Early round of World Cup full of upsets and surprises

By DOUG FEINBERG

AP Basketball Writer

SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE, Spain (AP) — The preliminary round of the FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup had its share of upsets, comebacks and surprises.

Two African nations qualified for the knockout round, with Nigeria and Senegal both advancing. It's the first time that any team from that continent has made it this far — let alone two teams.

"It feels good off the back of making history with our first win against Turkey to have now followed it up by beating Argentina," Nigeria guard Ezinne Kalu said. "We're working hard and staying focused. It is exciting for us making more and more history with a team that is very closely bonded together, and we want to continue on this journey for longer."

Belgium, playing in its first World Cup, won Group C with a nine-point victory over host Spain on Tuesday. Emma Meesseman hit a layup just before the buzzer to give Belgium a wide enough margin of victory to clinch first place in the pool.

"I think it is one of our biggest ever wins and especially to get it after losing

a close game in overtime against Japan," Belgium guard Julie Allemand said. "We are going to enjoy this now and rest for two days. To get to the top eight of the competition first-time, is amazing."

Spain wasn't completely distraught by the loss though, as now the Spaniards will avoid potentially meeting the U.S. until the gold medal game.

The Americans, to no surprise, went 3-0 in the preliminary round. Although they definitely had a tougher time than expected against Senegal and China before blowing out Latvia. The U.S. passed the 100-point mark in its last two games, becoming only the second team — along with the Soviet Union — to reach the century mark in two pool games.

The Americans, along with Australia, Canada and Belgium, earned byes to the quarterfinals on Friday.

Wednesday's quarterfinal qualifiers will feature Spain-Senegal, Nigeria-Greece, Japan-China and France-Turkey.

Here are a few other tidbits from the preliminary pool: SCHOOL DAYS: The crowds for the opening two days of play at the FIBA Women's World Cup have been

strong, with games taking place over the weekend.

With the final day of the preliminary round on Tuesday, the local organizing committee brought in

school kids to fill the stands

for the early 11 a.m. tip.

They made flags and signs



In this July 12, 2017, file photo, Indiana Fever's Jazmon Gwathmey (1) goes to the basket against San Antonio Stars' Kelsey Plum (10) during the second half of a WNBA basketball game in Indianapolis.

Associated Press

to support the two teams and also brought in drums, creating a festive atmosphere. Usually camp and school days in the WNBA have the kids cheering for the home team. Here, with the kids equally divided, both sides had loud sup-

port.

"It was a great atmosphere, even better than WNBA kids games because they were cheering for both sides," said Jazmon Gwathmey, who scored 23 points for Puerto Rico and plays for the Indiana Fever in the WNBA.

CANADIAN COMEBACK: Canada came to the World Cup with a few goals in mind. The first was to win their group. They can cross that off the list now.

"We understand that winning the pool is great but there's so much more to come," said Kia Nurse, who led Canada with 18 points in the win over France on Tuesday night.

"So to be able to put ourselves in this situation to go in, have two days off, give us a chance to be able to scout a little extra, get some practice in and work on things we want to get better at, it's a great situation."

Canada trailed France by 15 points in the first half and by 10 at intermission before getting going in the second half and pulling away to an 11-point win and clinch the top seed in Group A.

The Canadians had a lot of chance to be even closer at the half, but missed a lot of layups. □

SERGIO GARCIA

Continued from Page 17

And the start of Ryder Cup week has proved just why he was chosen.

Fellow Spaniard Jon Rahm spoke Wednesday about Garcia's "contagious" enthusiasm and energy. Bjorn has already talked about Garcia's ability to "rally the troops" and act like the captain of a soccer team. Rory McIlroy described him as the "heartbeat" of the European team.

"I think just everyone loves Sergio," McIlroy said.

Significantly for Garcia's own peace of mind, his form might be returning.

The 2017 Masters champion hasn't shot higher than 70 in his last eight competitive rounds. He closed the Portugal Masters last week with a 65 for a seventh-place finish at an event

he told Bjorn he wanted to play to ensure he would be sharp heading to France for the Ryder Cup.

It appears Garcia will be much more than a cheerleader this week.

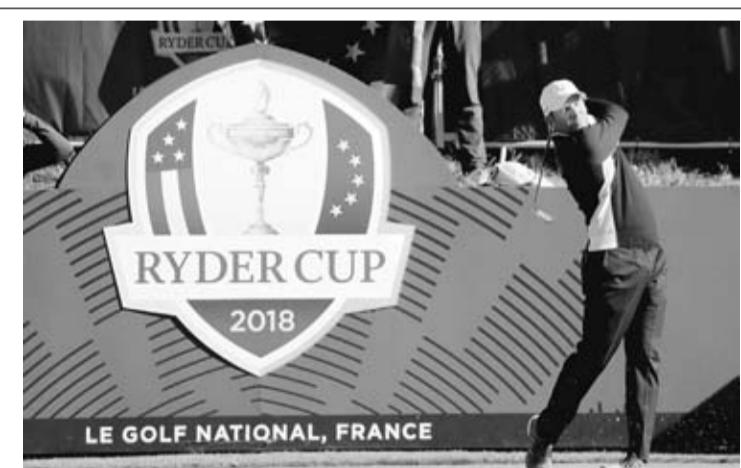
"I think that I've proved myself over and over," Garcia said, "and the only thing I can do out there is when I get called upon playing, just do my best, do what I do, do what I've always done here at Ryder Cups, and that's everything."

Garcia has played in every Ryder Cup since 1999 except for 2010, when he was a vice captain. It has coincided with a long stretch of success for the Europeans, who have won six of the last eight editions. "A lot of these Ryder Cup teams, it's about continuity and about bringing the same mind-set to each

one," McIlroy said. "He (Garcia) likes to have fun. He never lets the environment or the atmosphere get too serious, and I think that's one of the big things about European Ryder Cups over the past few years. We've basically left any sort of egos at the door."

In that sense, and in many others, Garcia has followed in the footsteps of the late Seve Ballesteros, another fiery and fun-loving Spaniard who played a key role in the European resurgence in the Ryder Cup in the 1990s as both player and captain. At Le Golf National, Garcia will overtake Ballesteros as the Spaniard with most Ryder Cup appearances, with nine.

Rahm is cut from a similar cloth to Garcia and could



Europe's Sergio Garcia plays a shot from the 1st tee during a practice round for the 2018 Ryder Cup in Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, outside Paris, France, Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2018.

Associated Press

even go on to threaten that record. The 23-year-old Rahm is one of five rookies in the European team and, to many, a future top-ranked player.

"It's always been a dream of mine to share the stage with Sergio," Rahm said. "I

think he understands me as a fellow Spaniard, as both fiery players, I think he understands me more than anybody else. Whether we play together or not, he's going to be able to help me out most out of anybody in the world." □

AP Explains: The U.S. push to boost 'quantum computing'

By MATT O'BRIEN

AP Technology Writer

YORKTOWN HEIGHTS, N.Y.

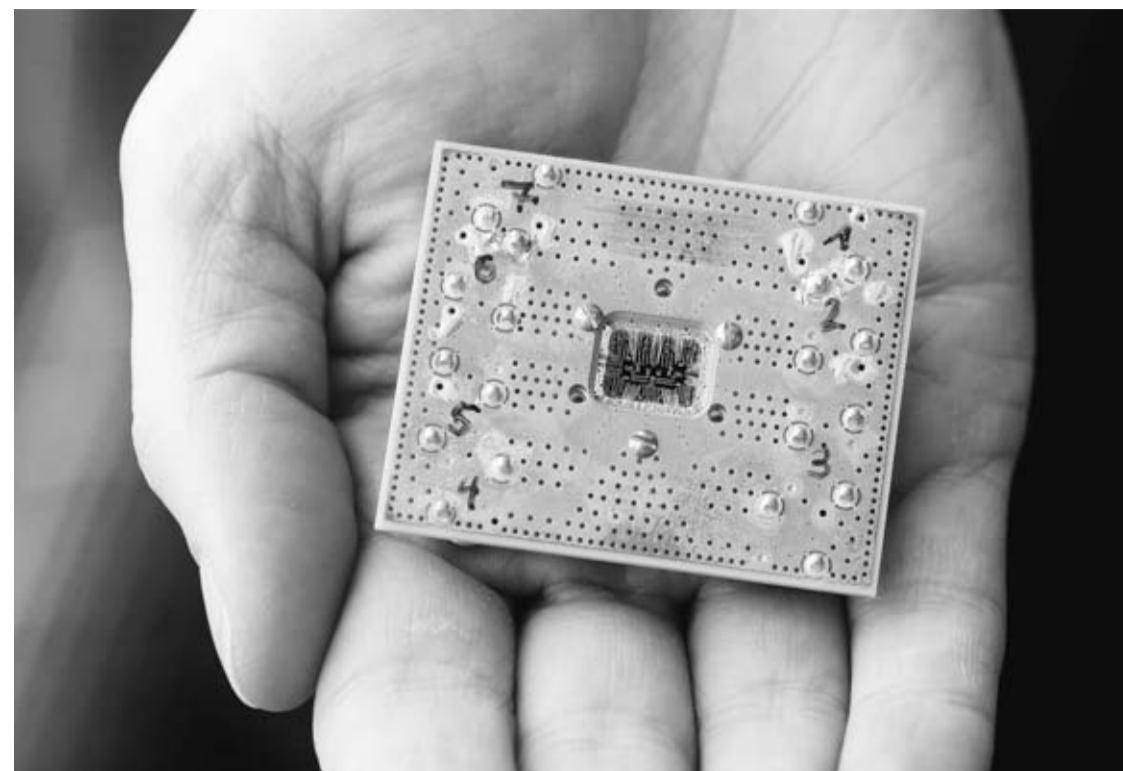
(AP) — A race by U.S. tech companies to build a new generation of powerful "quantum computers" could get a \$1.3 billion boost from Congress, fueled in part by lawmakers' fear of growing competition from China.

Legislation passed earlier in September by the U.S. House of Representatives would create a 10-year federal program to accelerate research and development of the esoteric technology. As the bill moves to the Senate, where it also has bipartisan support, the White House showed its enthusiasm for the effort by holding a quantum summit Monday.

Scientists hope government backing will help attract a broader group of engineers and entrepreneurs to their nascent field. The goal is to be less like the cloistered Manhattan Project physicists who developed the first atomic bombs and more like the wave of tinkerers and programmers who built thriving industries around the personal computer, the internet and smartphone apps.

WHAT'S A QUANTUM COMPUTER?

Describing the inner workings of a quantum computer isn't easy, even for top scholars. That's because



This Feb. 27, 2018, photo shows a seven qubit quantum device is seen at the IBM Thomas J. Watson Research Center in Yorktown Heights, N.Y.

Associated Press

the machines process information at the scale of elementary particles such as electrons and photons, where different laws of physics apply.

"It's never going to be intuitive," said Seth Lloyd, a mechanical engineering professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "At this microscopic level, things are weird. An electron can be here and there at the same time, at two places at once." Conventional computers process information as a stream of bits, each of which can be either a zero

or a one in the binary language of computing. But quantum bits, known as qubits, can register zero and one simultaneously.

WHAT CAN IT DO?

In theory, the special properties of qubits would allow a quantum computer to perform calculations at far higher speeds than current supercomputers. That makes them good tools for understanding what's happening in the realms of chemistry, material science or particle physics.

That speed could aid in discovering new drugs, optimizing financial portfolios

and finding better transportation routes or supply chains.

It could also advance another fast-growing field, artificial intelligence, by accelerating a computer's ability to find patterns in large troves of images and other data.

What worries intelligence agencies most about the technology's potential — and one reason for the heightened U.S. interest — is that a quantum computer could in several decades be powerful enough to break the codes of today's best cryptography.

Today's early quantum computers, however, fall well short on that front.

WHERE CAN YOU FIND ONE?

While quantum computers don't really exist yet in a useful form, you can find some loudly chugging prototypes in a windowless lab about 40 miles north of New York City.

Qubits made from superconducting materials sit in colder-than-outer-space refrigerators at IBM's Thomas J. Watson Research Center. Take off the cylindrical casing from one of the machines and the inside looks like a chandelier of hanging gold cables — all of it designed to keep 20 fragile qubits in an isolated quantum state.

"You need to keep it very cold to make sure the quantum bits only entangle with each other the way you program it, and not with the rest of the universe," said Scott Crowder, IBM's vice president of quantum computing.

IBM is competing with Google and startups like Berkeley, California-based Rigetti Computing to get ever-more qubits onto their chips. Microsoft, Intel and a growing number of venture-backed startups are also making big investments. So are Chinese firms Baidu, Alibaba and Tencent, which have close ties to the Chinese government. □



This March 20, 2018, file photo shows the Uber app on an iPad in Baltimore.

Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) — Uber has agreed to pay \$148 million and take steps to tighten data security, after the ride-

hailing company failed for a year to notify drivers that hackers had stolen their personal information.

Uber agrees to \$148M settlement with states over data breach

Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan announced the settlement Wednesday between Uber Technologies Inc. and all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

"Uber completely disregarded Illinois' breach notification law when it waited more than a year to alert people to a serious data breach," Madigan said.

Madigan said that although Uber is now taking appropriate steps, "the company's initial response was unacceptable. Com-

panies cannot hide when they break the law."

Uber learned in November 2016 that hackers had accessed personal data, including driver's license information, for roughly 600,000 Uber drivers in the U.S. The company acknowledged the breach in November 2017, saying it paid \$100,000 in ransom for the stolen information to be destroyed.

Tony West, chief legal officer for Uber, said the decision by current managers

was "the right thing to do." "It embodies the principles by which we are running our business today: transparency, integrity, and accountability," West said.

The hack also took the names, email addresses and cell phone number of 57 million riders around the world.

All 50 states and the District of Columbia sued Uber, saying the company violated laws requiring it to promptly notify people affected by the breach. □

Small retailers upbeat about 4Q but tariffs make some uneasy

By JOYCE M. ROSENBERG

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Sales are so strong at women's clothing company Leota that owner Sarah Carson is asking manufacturers for more inventory for the holidays, a change from last year.

Leota, which sells dresses, tops, pants and skirts to stores and on its own website, has been getting reorders from retailers in mid-season, unlike recent years when customer demand was weaker. But taking on more inventory isn't something Carson's doing lightly; she doesn't want a big surplus that she'll need to mark down Dec. 26.

"The fourth quarter is a really challenging time in retail. You have to take the biggest inventory risk and you have a very short period of time to move it," says Carson, whose business is up 55 percent this year.

Many small and independent retailers are more upbeat about the fourth quarter and holiday season than in recent years because customers are more confident and spending freely. Shoppers are especially interested in some of the merchandise stores struggled to sell during the recession and its aftermath, including clothes and home furnishings. Retail sales tallied by the Commerce Department for the first eight months of 2018 were up 5.7 percent from a year earlier. Clothing store sales rose 5.7 percent, while furniture store sales gained 5 percent. Online and mail-order sales soared 10.1 percent.

And while booming online sales have siphoned business away from many traditional retailers, small and independent stores with unique merchandise or services are enjoying a sales surge that allows them to stock up, although they do so judiciously. Still, there are pockets of uncertainty including retailers in places recovering from natural disasters and those worried about the impact of the Trump administration's import tariffs.

Erica Tanov is ordering



In this Sept. 18, 2018, photo Bobby & Janice Jucker pose for a photo inside their Three Brothers Bakery in Houston.

Associated Press

more merchandise for her website and three clothing stores in Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay area. She expects the fourth quarter and holiday season to surpass last year, when demand was so strong she ran out of some styles. Sales have been particularly strong the last few months. Tanov says that despite the growth in online shopping, customers want to visit small stores where they can feel an emotional connection.

"People have been really responding to products that they know are made with integrity, and are supporting artisans both locally and globally," she says. Retailing consultant Bob Phibbs expects small brick-and-mortar retailers to have a good holiday season.

"Retailers are getting back to being brilliant on the basics of customer service," Phibbs says. For example, owners are training staff-

ers so they're more knowledgeable and attentive to shoppers, giving customers a reason to come to the store rather than shop online.

Portland Gear, which sells shirts, hats and other casual apparel with Portland, Oregon, logos, projects a 15 percent sales increase during the fourth quarter but is prepared to produce more inventory if holiday sales exceed expectations, co-owner Marcus Harvey says. The company makes its own garments and can quickly replenish its stock, Harvey says.

The company has one store in Portland and a website and plans pop-up shops during the holidays. Because of its local appeal, 70 percent of its sales come from its physical locations, with the remainder online. Harvey and his partners don't plan to change that mix.

But the prospect of tariffs makes some retailers un-

the most important time of the year," she says.

Williams is considering stocking more mid-priced and lower-priced items that customers may feel more comfortable buying. The fourth quarter outlook is also uncertain at Three Brothers Bakery, which has three stores in Houston. A year after Hurricane Harvey flooded the city, sales are down 25 percent from before the storm. Owner Janice Jucker is working on her website and increasing her marketing to find new customers and revenue outside of Houston in time for the holidays.

Many of Jucker's Houston customers are focused on rebuilding and repairing their homes; they aren't entertaining and ordering cakes and pies.

"The people in our neighborhood do not have dining rooms anymore. They are buying sofas and socks," Jucker says.

Ninety-five miles from Houston, Cynthia Sutton-Stolle has heavily promoted her gift shops on Instagram and Facebook and sought publicity for herself and other retailers in Round Top, Texas, a destination for antique buyers.

Sales have been below par since Harvey. The average transaction this year at Sutton-Stolle's stores, Silver Barn and Nutmeg's Kids, has totaled \$15, down from \$30 in 2017. But she's seeing more optimism among shoppers and retailers at Round Top's annual antiques show, which began this week and continues into October.

"We are seeing a lighter feel," she says. "Fourth quarter could be better than the last two years." □



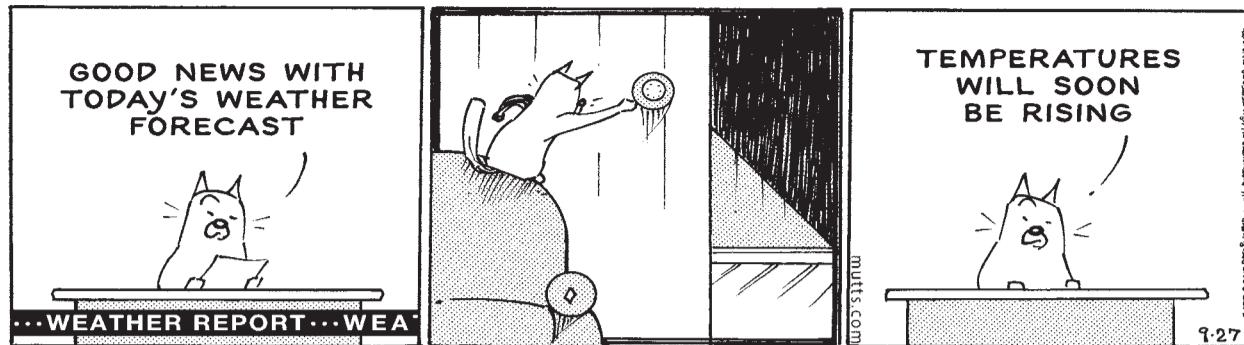
Sasaki Apartments

Stay at Sasaki Apartments, fully furnished studios, excellent location near Eagle Beach.

DIRECT RESERVATIONS at www.sasakiapts.com
Telephone: 5877482

Bubali 143, in front of SuperFood Plaza Mall

Mutts



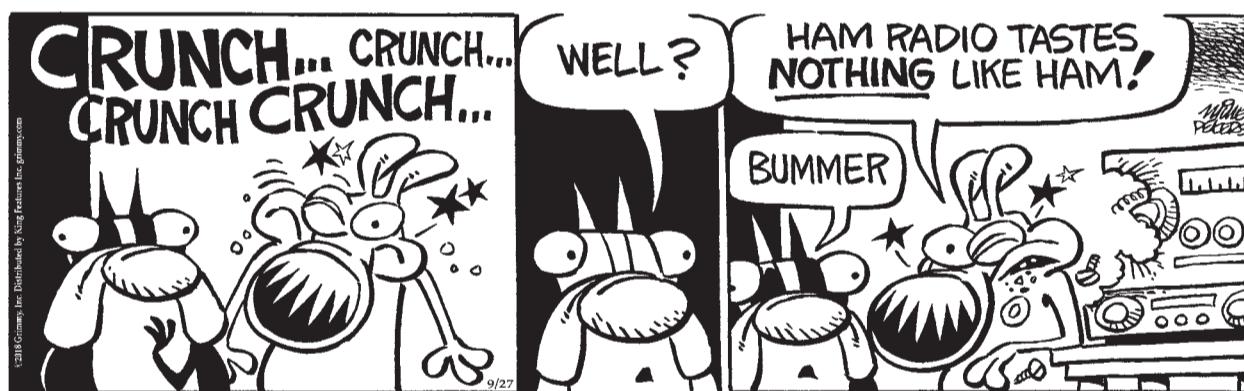
6 Chix



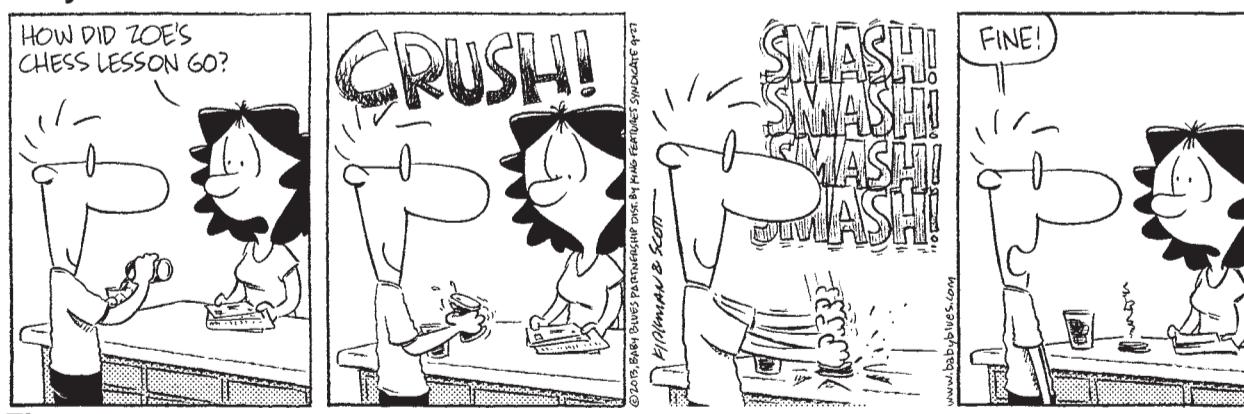
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



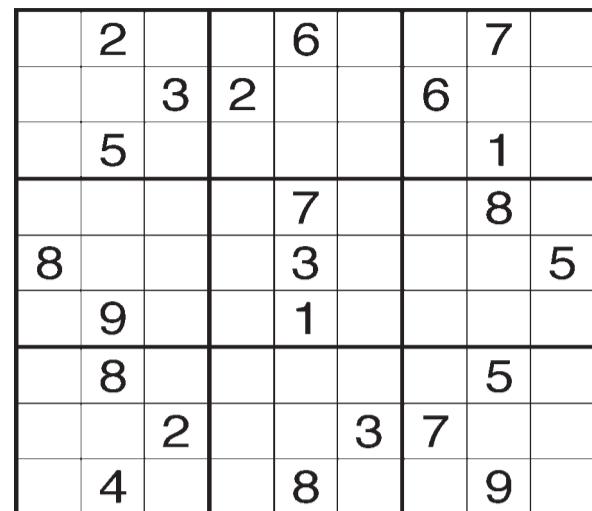
Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku



©2018 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

9/27

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

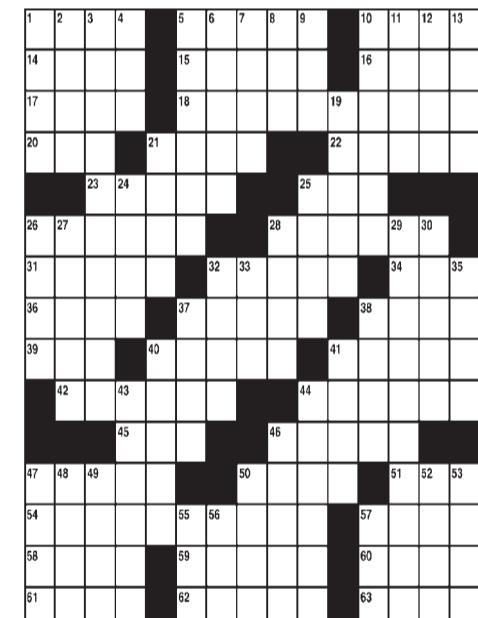
2	7	3	6	1	8	4	5	9
9	8	1	5	2	4	3	6	7
5	4	6	3	7	9	8	2	1
6	2	8	9	5	3	1	7	4
7	3	5	8	4	1	6	9	2
4	1	9	7	6	2	5	8	3
1	9	4	2	8	6	7	3	5
8	5	2	4	3	7	9	1	6
3	6	7	1	9	5	2	4	8

Yesterday's puzzle answer

2	7	3	6	1	8	4	5	9
9	8	1	5	2	4	3	6	7
5	4	6	3	7	9	8	2	1
6	2	8	9	5	3	1	7	4
7	3	5	8	4	1	6	9	2
4	1	9	7	6	2	5	8	3
1	9	4	2	8	6	7	3	5
8	5	2	4	3	7	9	1	6
3	6	7	1	9	5	2	4	8

ACROSS

1 and above; beyond
5 Book — Month Club
10 "Beat it!"
14 Unable to hear
15 Weak
16 Vagabond
17 Writing table
18 Fussy
20 on; watch from hiding
21 In the of an eye; quickly
22 Takes a nap
23 Huh
25 Actor Wheaton
26 Close after surgery
28 Long-; very talkative
31 Slipped up
32 Hopscotch grid drawer's need
34 Big kahuna, for short
36 West and others
37 Tastelessly showy
38 Dancer Kelly
39 Suffix for text or percent
40 Mournful song
41 Pass up voluntarily
42 Bitter conflict
44 Grand National Park
45 Polish off
46 Tendon
47 Not rural
50 Facial twitches
51 Pork product
54 Century 21's business
57 List of dishes
58 Chutzpah
59 Fight off
60 and crafts
61 Acting award
62 Impudent
63 Cozy home



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

9/27/18

Wednesday's Puzzle Solved

CRIB	SOAK	ADAM
LUNAR	TWIN	TAXI
INTHE	ENLIGHTEN	
PSI	TIP	CREASE
MOANS	KEN	
TRIVIA	SEASON	
WIDEN	CHART	VENT
ASAN	PLUGS	TEAR
SET	SHAME	BERRA
RESTED	CLASSY	
PEA	ROAST	
IT GOES	ITS	AHA
CHARLATAN	TATER	
EAST	NODS	STEAM
DIPS	TAME	ESPY

©2018 Tribune Content Agency, LLC All Rights Reserved.

9/27/18

38 No longer here
40 Actress Keaton
41 Groupies
43 Without a doubt
44 Actress Tyson
46 Web surfer's stops
47 Egg on
48 500 sheets of paper
49 Soothing ointment
50 Bugle song
52 Picnic
53 Spoilers
54 Has to
55 Twelfth-graders: abbr.
56 Actress Leoni
57 Gent

Happy news:
Beluga
whale
in Thames
eating,
swimming
well

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British officials say the beluga whale spotted in the River Thames seems to be feeding properly and swimming strongly. The animal welfare group RSPCA said Wednesday the whale is "able to move fast in the water and dive." Officials hope it will return to the open sea.

The beluga whale attracted a plenty of attention Tuesday when it surfaced in the River Thames. The unusual sighting happened in the Gravesend area, 30 miles (50 kilometers) east of London.

Belugas are typically found farther north in frigid Arctic waters.

Officials say nearby ships have heeded the call to stay far away from the whale to avoid upsetting it. RSPCA says "at the moment, there are no major concerns for the welfare of the animal." □

Classifieds

Resale Marriott Surf and Ocean Club

All Season, All Size of Room, All View, Price Starting From \$5000, More Info Call: 630-1307 johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Aruba Divi Phoenix

Studio WK 37 Room # 832 \$5500 34 weeks remain 9 can be accelerated

Costa Linda

2 BR WK 37 Room #2001 Pool/Ocean View \$7000 Call: 630-1307 johnnypaesch@gmail.com

Halley Time Travel Aruba Own A Piece OF The Rock Real Value Real Estate No Hurricanes, No Humidity 33 Yrs Experience Call: 630-1307 johnnypaesch@gmail.com Own VS Rent

Weekly Fleamarket

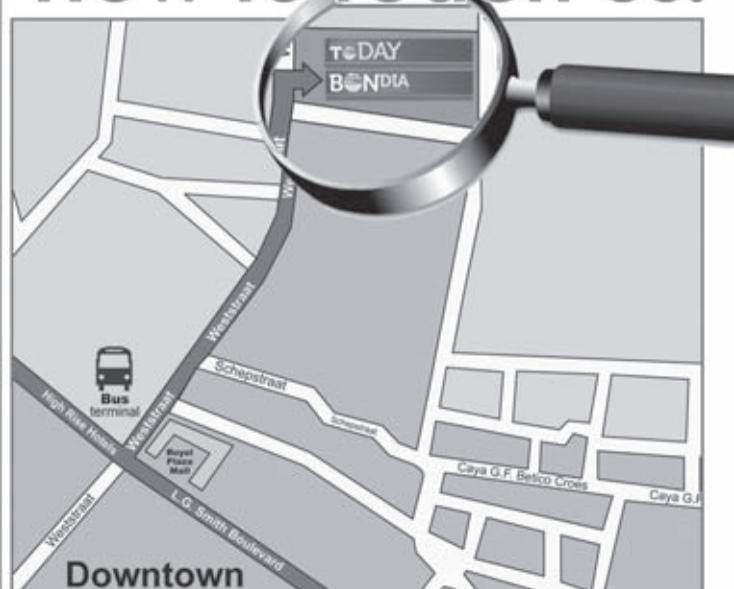
ROCOCO PLAZA
Tanki Leendert Road 4 A
Every Saturday in combination with the fruits and vegetables
Start 9 am BIG SALE
Antiqueshops & OUTLET
Open Mon-Frid 9-4 pm
Call info: Ph. 7415640
Wholesaler BubblePlastic



TODAY

BONDIA

How to reach us!



Psychic Riley
Solves problems in love business help and removes negative influences. Guaranteed Results. All readings are customized and confidential. 001 747 271 9899

209694

Aruba Divi Phoenix

Studio WK 35&36 Room #202 33 weeks remain \$7000 both weeks

1 BR WK# 38 Room # 612 33 weeks remain (even year) also 57,500 RCI points \$6500 Call: 630-1307 johnnypaesch@gmail.com

210183

Time share For Sale

weeks 40 & 41 Paradise Beach Villa 2 bedr town house with 2 bathrooms, 2 balconies & full kitchen saturday check in \$5400 / each amylewis@comcast.net

210173

Psychic Natalie

Will read the stars in heaven to for fill your destiny and solve all your problems.

001 817 851 6474

209697

ARUBA TODAY

Editor

Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.
Acc. #23951903
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

Assistant Director

Xiomara Arends

Editor in Chief

Linda Reijnders
(linda.reijnders@cspnv.com)
Liza Koolman (Management assistant)

Editors

Richard Brooks
Jeancarlo Trinidad

Sales

Linda Reijnders
(linda.reijnders@cspnv.com)
Marijke Croes

Classifieds

Rachelle Danje
(rachelle.danje@cspnv.com)

Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

Social / Website

Jeancarlo Trinidad

Weststraat 22

T: 582-7800

E: news@arubatoday.com

W: www.arubatoday.com

f@arubatoday

**BUY
ARUBA
TimeShares.com**
Private Owner Sales

**WE
SELL,
RENT
& BUY**

Visit our website:
www.buyarubatimeshares.com
www.rentarubatimeshares.com

Contact us for more listings
Call 7373006
info@buyarubatimeshares.com

**SPECIALS
OF THE WEEK**

Renaissance:

Wk 37, Unit 2332 \$3,500

3rd Floor/Harbor View

Wk 38, Unit 2503 \$2,500

5th Floor/Pool View

La Cabana:

Wk 37, Unit 214C \$2,075

Renaissance

Wk 23, Unit 2326 \$2,750

3rd Floor/Harbor View

Wk 24, Unit 2505 \$3,750

5th Floor/Ocean View

Wk 27, Unit 2120 \$2,250

1st Floor/Harbor View

Wk 29, Unit 2517 \$4,500

5th Floor/Pool&Ocean View

Wk 29, Unit 2524 \$6,500

5th Floor/Harbor View

Wk 30, Unit 2546 \$5,500

5th Floor/Ocean Front

Wk 32, Unit 2509 \$5,750

5th Floor/Pool&Ocean View

Wk 32, Unit 2332 \$2,750

3rd Floor/Harbor View

Wk 33, Unit 2332 \$2,750

3rd Floor/Harbor View

Wk 34, Unit 2121 \$4,000

1st Floor/Pool View

Wk 34, Unit 2123 \$2,250

1st Floor/Pool View

Wk 34, Unit 2136 \$3,000

1st Floor/Harbor View

Wk 35, Unit 2120 \$4,000

Ground Floor/Harbour View

Wk 35, Unit 2349 \$6,500

3rd Floor/Ocean Front

Wk 38, Unit 2545 \$4,000

5th Floor/Pool & Ocean

La Cabana

Wk 30 Unit 227A \$4,000

Partial Ocean

Wk 33, Unit 213C \$2,075

Garden View

Wk 35, Unit 140C/226C \$5,000

Pool View

Wk 52, Unit 229C \$5,500

Divi

Divi Dutch Village

Wk 17, Unit 138 \$5,000

Divi

Divi Dutch Village

Wk 19, Unit 72 \$4,000 OBO

Divi Village: Very motivated seller

Week 43, Unit 7206, \$2,800

(Old price \$7,250)

Beachfront Deluxe Studio, Ocean View

Costa Linda

Wk 25, Unit 5018 \$12,000

Wk 25, Unit 5016 \$12,000

Wk 29, Unit 1 \$12,000

Casa del Mar

Wk 34 Unit 1428 \$2,500

Pool View

Tropicana

Wk 29, Unit 1543 \$2,750

1 Bedroom

Wks 29-32, Unit 5557 \$4,000 ea wk

Wk 32, Unit 3526 \$6,000

Occidental

Wk 52 & Wk 1, 1 Bedr \$50,000 for both

Wk 7, \$35,000 2 Bedr

La Quinta

Wk 33/34 Unit 102 \$5,000

1 Bedroom

SAVE \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Contact us for more listings

Call 7373006

info@buyarubatimeshares.com

Sun Plaza Business Center

L.G. Smith Blvd. 160 – Suite 125

Oranjestad, Aruba

www.buyarubatimeshares.com



HEALTH

Hospital
527 4000
Imsan- San Nicolas
524 8833

DOCTOR ON DUTY

Oranjestad
Dr. v. Trigt Tel. 582 2991
San Nicolas
Dr. Wever Tel. 584 5155

PHARMACY ON DUTY

Antibiotics for appendicitis? Surgery often not needed

By LINDSEY TANNER

CHICAGO (AP) — When emergency tests showed the telltale right-sided pain in Heather VanDusen's abdomen was appendicitis, she figured she'd be quickly wheeled into surgery. But doctors offered her the option of antibiotics instead. A new study from Finland shows her choice is a reasonable alternative for most patients with appendicitis. Five years after treatment with antibiotics, almost two-thirds of patients hadn't had another attack.

It's a substantial change in thinking about how to treat an inflamed appendix. For decades, appendicitis has been considered a medical emergency requiring immediate surgery to remove the appendix because of fears it could burst, which can be life-threatening.

But advances in imaging tests, mainly CT scans, have made it easier to determine if an appendix might burst, or if patients could be safely treated without surgery. The results suggest that nearly two-thirds of appendicitis patients don't face that risk and may be good candidates for antibiotics instead.

"It's a feasible, viable and a safe option," said Dr. Paullina Salminen, the study's



In this 2016 photo provided by the University of Washington, Dr. Linda Vorvick examines Heather VanDusen at UW Neighborhood Clinic in Seattle.

Associated Press

lead author and a surgeon at Turku University Hospital in Finland.

Her study in adults is the longest follow-up to date of patients treated with drugs instead of surgery for appendicitis and the results confirm one-year findings reported three years ago. Research has also shown antibiotics may work for some children with appendicitis.

The Finnish results were published Tuesday in the

Journal of the American Medical Association.

A journal editorial says "it's a new era of appendicitis treatment."

Appendix removal is the most common emergency surgery worldwide, with about 300,000 performed each year in the United States alone, said Salminen. She said the results from her study suggest many of those surgeries could be avoided.

U.S. doctors have started

offering antibiotics instead of surgery and Salminen says she occasionally does too. The journal editorial says appropriate patients should be given that option.

The study involved about 500 Finnish adults who had CT scans to rule out severe cases.

Half were treated with antibiotics; the others had surgery.

Among the antibiotics patients, 100 ended up having surgery within five years of treatment — most for a suspected recurrence of appendicitis in the first year. Seven of them did not have appendicitis and likely could have avoided surgery. The results suggest the success rate for antibiotic treatment was almost 64 percent, the authors said.

About 1 in 4 surgery patients had complications, including infections around the incision, abdominal pain and hernias, compared with only 7 percent of antibiotics patients. Antibiotic patients had 11 fewer sick days on average than the surgery group. In the first year, their treatment costs were about 60 percent lower. A cost analysis for the full five years wasn't included in the published results.

Surgery patients in the Finn-

ish study all had conventional incisions rather than the less invasive "keyhole" surgeries that are more common for appendix removal in the United States.

The non-surgery patients received three days of IV antibiotics in the hospital, followed by seven days of pills at home.

Dr. Giana Davidson, a University of Washington surgeon, is involved in a similarly designed multicenter U.S. study that may answer whether similar benefits would be seen for antibiotics versus "keyhole" surgery. Davidson called the Finnish study "a critical piece to the puzzle but I don't think it answers all of the questions."

Heather VanDusen was treated at the University of Washington in 2016. She said she chose antibiotic treatment partly to avoid surgery scars, and now offers advice to patients for Davidson's study.

"I knew the worst case scenario was ending up back in the hospital so why not try antibiotics first," said VanDusen, who works in university communications. She said she has done well since her treatment, but that the biggest drawback "is wondering, with every episode of stomach or bad gas, if it could happen again." □

Big changes about small fish are in store for fishermen

By PATRICK WHITTLE

Associated Press

Fisheries managers are adopting a host of potentially major changes for Atlantic herring, an economically important fish that serves as a key part of the ocean ecosystem in New England.

Atlantic herring is a small, schooling fish that is the target of an industry that collects more than 100 million pounds (45 million kilograms) of catch every year. The fish is also the subject of concern from environmentalists and fishery managers, as the National

Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has said a recent assessment of the herring stock shows a decline.

On Tuesday, the New England Fishery Management Council adopted a new formula that will help guide how it sets catch limits in the future. Catch limits will change based on the health of the fishery, which is updated through stock assessments.

The council aims to further reduce catch limits to prevent overfishing of herring. But there were no projections available Tuesday. It also approved a coastal buffer zone to keep out

mid-sized trawlers from sensitive spawning, feeding and nursery habitat. The buffer extends 12 miles (19 kilometers) from the coast in most areas but will extend to nearly 20 miles (32 kilometers) around Cape Cod in Massachusetts.

Peter Baker, director of

U.S. Ocean Conservation-

Northeast for the Pew Charitable Trusts, praised the council's actions.

"Protecting these sensitive areas from intensive fishing and rebuilding the herring population will directly benefit marine wildlife and the coastal businesses that depend on them," Baker said in a statement.

Debate over the proposed changes has prompted a clash between herring fishermen, harvesters of other species, conservationists and stakeholders. The herring fishery wants to make sure it isn't unfairly penalized for the decline of the species, said Jeff Kaelin, who works in government relations for herring harvester Lund's Fisheries of Cape May, New Jersey.

"Environment plays a bigger part than the level of fishing pressure that has been allowed," Kaelin said. Herring are important economically because they serve as key bait for the lobster and tuna industries. □

Lauren Daigle wants to break down walls to Christian music

BY KRISTIN M. HALL

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Three years ago, Lauren Daigle took home three Dove Awards for her debut record, "How Can It Be," and the Louisiana singer-songwriter got her first taste of the weight of genre's expectations on her shoulders. The 2015 album, one of only a few Christian music albums to have been certified platinum in recent years, propelled her to the top of the Christian music charts.

"You're sitting there with these awards and it's a beautiful moment," Daigle said. "But everything that was happening in my ears was like, 'Oh my gosh, how do I maintain this responsibility, how do I uphold this level of expectation?'"

Since then, the 27-year-old has more than risen to the challenge of being an ambassador for contemporary Christian music. She sang a duet with Reba McEntire on the Academy of Country Music Awards, recorded a song for the "Blade Runner 2049" soundtrack, earned two Grammy nominations and toured relentlessly.

Her follow up, "Look Up Child," debuted this month at No. 3 on Billboard's all-genre album chart and had the best first week sales of any Christian album in nearly nine years, according to Billboard. Daigle, who is performing at this year's Dove Awards on Oct. 16 and is nominated for an American Music Award, talked with The Associated Press about why she likes Chance the Rapper and breaking down the walls to Christian music. The following remarks have been edited for brevity.

AP: This new record has a lot of strings and orchestration on the songs. What was that like in the studio?

Daigle: We got to go into the studio and listen to all of the sounds that can be created from an orchestra, from the strings. I remember this moment, they were in a semi-circle and I sat in the middle and I had some friends come in and sit there with me. And tears just started falling down

their faces. It was so pure. Just that kind of sound was so pure and rich. I loved the complement to the lyric that strings bring.

AP: You have a song called "Losing My Religion," tell me about the meaning of that song.

Daigle: I had realized there are so many moments where I let that expectation dictate my ability to perform, my perfectionism. And as much as we want to create a white picket fence, it's not real. It's a facade. And I think the sooner we realize that people can be messy and people are fragile, the more we actually start to see through the eyes of God, or the God that I know. We experience kindness for humanity. We experience joy for humanity. And we run toward them instead of building all these barriers. And so that's what "Losing My Religion" is. It's taking down all the boxes, taking down all the fences, and it's living as pure and as whole as possible.

AP: Has it always been your goal to reach people beyond the Christian music genre?

Daigle: We have this saying in my team that's called "Extend the tent pegs." And it's not to leave behind anybody that has listened to this music so far and that has been along this journey with me because I am 100 percent grateful. So I don't want to leave anybody behind, but how to do I also make music that people who might not listen to Christian music they can also connect to? They can also relate to? That's super-important to me to make music that permeates all the walls and just tear all the walls down. People need love, people need hope. People need joy anywhere in life.

AP: Do you want to change people's understanding of what Christian music can be?

Daigle: Chance the Rapper got to do stuff with all these gospel artists. So profound. I love that, right? And that was something I wanted to bring in as well.

□



In this Sept. 5, 2018, photo, contemporary Christian singer and songwriter Lauren Daigle poses in Franklin, Tenn., to promote her latest release "Look Up Child," which debuted this month at No. 3 on Billboard's all-genre album chart.

Associated Press

Paseo Herencia
"nos orgu... Aruba's pride"

DAILY HAPPENINGS

There is always something happening for the entire family at Paseo Herencia. Enjoy our free weekly events.

Monday at 8:00pm
Cultural Night

Tuesday at 8:00pm
Aruba Has Talent

Wednesday at 8:00pm
Noche Latina

Thursday at 8:00pm
Circus Night

Friday at 8:00pm
Caribbean Night

Saturday at 8:00pm
Violin Night

Sunday at 8:00pm
Aruba Has Talent

Every night at 7:30pm 8:30pm 9:30pm
Liquid Firework Show

STORES OPENING HOURS
Monday thru Saturday 10am to 10pm
Sundays 5pm to 10pm

Parking available in Paseo Parking Garage at Afl. 1,75 / \$ 1.00 per hour

Paseo Herencia Shopping Center
J.E. Irausquin Blvd 382-A • Palm Beach, Aruba

#paseoherencia

Phoenix, Reilly bond as outlaw kin in 'Sisters Brothers'

By JAKE COYLE

TORONTO (AP) — To play any brother, by blood or not, of John C. Reilly is an intimidating prospect given just how firmly entrenched Will Ferrell is as Reilly's on-screen sibling.

"Step Brothers," their 2008 comedy classic that took the adolescent adult to absurdist extremes, looms large. It did even for Joaquin Phoenix in deciding to play Reilly's brother in "The Sisters Brothers," Jacques Audiard's Western. Phoenix considers "Step Brothers" one of his all-time favorites. "I knew from that movie. It's kind of unbelievable how brilliant he is in it," Phoenix says of Reilly. "I know people think of it as a broad comedy, but there's a lot of thought that went into that character."

The two films, "The Sisters Brothers" and "Step Brothers," are worlds apart. But they are both centered on the subtle and combustible chemistry of brothers. And for Reilly, both Ferrell and Phoenix are two of the funniest people he's ever met. "Both," he says, "have made



In this Sept. 8, 2018 photo, Joaquin Phoenix, left, and John C. Reilly, cast members in the film "The Sisters Brothers," pose together for a portrait at the Adelaide Hotel during the Toronto International Film Festival in Toronto.

Associated Press

me pee my pants and fall down laughing."

"The Sisters Brothers," the first English-language film for the French filmmaker Audiard ("A Prophet," "Deheepan"), is based on Patrick

deWitt's novel of the same name. Phoenix plays the hotheaded and hard-drinking Charlie Sisters, younger brother to the more level-headed and uncertain Eli (Reilly).

But they are both feared hired guns, who are dispatched by their boss, the Commodore, to track down a chemist (Riz Ahmed) with a radical idea for gold detection.

The movie, which Annapurna Pictures will open in limited release Friday, is largely a pair of two-handers — one between Phoenix and Reilly (together for the first time), the other between Ahmed and Jake Gyllenhaal (a reunion from "Nightcrawler"), who plays another pursuer who first locates the sought-after chemist. Both relationships throb with existential quandary and more immediate confrontations with change. Reilly's Eli, for example, encounters a tooth brush for the first time.

And much of the delight in "The Sisters Brothers" is seeing two very different performers like Reilly and Phoenix interact and respond to each other. Phoenix, ruthlessly self-deprecating, is a powerfully instinctual actor who abhors nothing as much as over-analysis. The

were essentially the only Americans around. Since talking through the roles or rehearsing was out, they got accustomed to just being around each other — living together at times, cooking meals.

"That's how we found our way into each other. We'd just walk in Spain for hours and hours without talking," says Reilly. "It sounds really weird."

"He's impossible not to adore and I did my best to make him dislike me," Phoenix says. "He was so committed and hard-working and detail-oriented, there was never a moment where he just showed up. Because there is always, no matter what you're doing, a couple days where you're like: '(Forget) this, when is lunch?' And he never did that."

For Reilly, "The Sisters Brothers" is ultimately about transformation through human connection. He views it as an "unvarnished, un-mythologized" look at a West that was more diverse than has often been captured in films. The appeal for Phoenix was — similar to his crime thriller earlier this year with Lynne Ramsay, "You Were Never Really Here" — in deconstructing the genre.

"Honestly, I don't think I've ever seen a good Western. I wouldn't even know what ... it was," Phoenix says. "But I didn't think about this as a Western and I told Jacques I didn't like Westerns. He and we were trying to find things that defy the expectations of what the genre is." But remaining, to a certain degree, unconscious about the larger themes is an essential part of Phoenix's approach to acting.

"It's fun to think about," he says of the meanings behind "The Sisters Brothers." "But half the time you think you come up with an answer or a reason why someone behaves the way they do, it's just not real. It's fun and you think you're being (expletive) clever. But the truth is the best (expletive) is when you're like: I don't really know why this is happening. □

MEGAPLEX 8

caribbeancinemas.com | Caribbean Cinemas Aruba

SEPTEMBER 26 - OCTOBER 3

KEVIN HART | TIFFANY HADDISH

NIGHT SCHOOL (PG-13)
MON-THU 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25
FRI 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25 | 11:50
SAT 2:10 | 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25 | 11:50
SUN 2:10 | 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25

CHANNING TATUM | JAMES CORDEN

SMASH FOOT
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES (PG)
MON-THU 4:30 | 6:40 | 8:50
FRI 5:35 | 8:00 | 10:25
SAT 3:10 | 5:35 | 8:00 | 10:25
SUN 3:10 | 5:35 | 8:00 | 10:25

NEW THIS WEEK!

SENSORY FRIENDLY PRESENTATION
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 AT 1:00PM
DAVE BAUTISTA | PIERCE BROSnan

FINAL SCORE (R)
MON-THU 4:50 | 7:15 | 9:35
FRI 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50
SAT 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50
SUN 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30

BOYD HOLBROOK | TREVANTE RHOADES

THE PREDATOR
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES (R)
CXC MON-FRI 4:35 | 7:15 | 9:35
SAT-SUN 2:35 | 4:35 | 7:15 | 9:35

THE HOUSE WITHIN
CLOCK & WALLS
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES (PG)
MON-FRI 4:00
SAT-SUN 1:45 | 4:00

DEMIÁN BICHIR | TAISSA FARMIGA

THE NUN
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES (R)
MON-SAT 7:20 | 9:35 | 11:50

Palm Beach Plaza | THE MAGIC OF THE MOVIES ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE

Download on the App Store | Get it on Google Play

CBS' 'Murphy Brown' is back, ready to 'make some noise'

By LYNN ELBER
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Last season's short-lived "Roseanne" revival blew an air kiss to President Donald Trump in its debut episode before it reverted to finding laughs in family and working-class woes, not politics. Expect "Murphy Brown," another reborn 20th-century sitcom, to be consistently faithful to its own roots. Washington tumult, social issues and the role of journalism will be central when the sitcom starring Candice Bergen as a tough TV reporter returns 9:30 p.m. EDT Thursday on CBS, said creator and executive producer Diane English.

The series is "here to make some noise," English said in an interview, sketching out a few of topics to be featured in the season's 13 episodes: "We're doing an immigration episode, we're doing a midterm-elections episode. We're doing a Me Too episode," she said.

The debut half-hour is "so ambitious and so fearless," Bergen told a TV critics' news conference. "During the taping, I turned to Joe (Regalbuto, her co-star) at one point and I said, 'This show has no fear of anyone.'"

In the revival, former network reporter Murphy is now on cable with the frothily titled "Murphy in the Morning." Along for the ride at the fictitious CNC news channel are her old "FYI" news magazine colleagues, including Regalbuto's Frank Fontana, Faith Ford's Corky Sherwood and Grant Shaud's Miles Silverberg.

Murphy and her colleagues "are trying to present the facts in a straight down the middle way," English said. "Their show is issue-oriented and facts, with no personal opinion."

Jake McDorman ("Shameless") joins the cast as Murphy's son, Avery, a reporter at the competing and conservative Wolf — ahem — news channel. He's liberal, but his work outside of the Washington beltway "bubble" has given him an appreciation for different



This image released by CBS shows Candice Bergen, left, and Tyne Daly in a scene from "Murphy Brown." Political, social issues and the role of journalism will be central when the sitcom, starring Bergen as a skeptical TV reporter, returns Thursday on CBS.

Associated Press

views, English said.

"He has paid attention to the people who feel that they were passed over and he's their voice, to some degree. The way he creates his own show gives a voice to people that are the forgotten and the people who the elites, in quotes, call 'the flyovers,'" she said.

An advantage the new series has over the 1988-98 original comes courtesy of technology, with digital recording allowing references to real-world news to be updated close to air, an impossibility in the old era of film.

The original "Murphy Brown" wasn't shy about intersecting with reality, most notably after the 1992 presidential campaign in which Dan Quayle, vice president to George H.W. Bush, lambasted the unmarried Murphy's pregnancy as a mockery of fatherhood and a Hollywood raspberry to American morality.

The top-rated, Emmy-winning series fired back in an ongoing tiff that generated headlines and fierce

debate — this before the advent of social media and its incendiary effect on anything and everything, and before public distrust of journalism became more entrenched.

English, herself a sparing user of online platforms (she enjoys Instagram and finds it largely friendly, but has harsh words for Facebook) said she's prepared for backlash.

"I am very aware of the fact that we're in a different world. But as in the old days, we never really censored ourselves in terms of the kinds of stories we would tell and the positions that we would have characters take," she said. "So, yeah, we're in a very divisive climate right now, but we're still going to be the show that we always were." That means topical, funny and, importantly, "no vitriol in the scripts. That's something I want to keep my antenna up about. And, hopefully, through humor shed some light on some things that any reasonable person, whether you're a Republican or a Democrat

or an independent, can find interesting," she said.

The Louisiana-born Ford said she reminds her politically "middle-ish" family back home that the joke is frequently on the show's imperfect characters.

"We are all flawed as human beings ... we all make fun of ourselves, and so the whole point of it is to make people laugh at whatever is going on right now," Ford said. English, with credits including a 2008 version of Clare Booth Luce's play (and 1939 film) "The Women," initially hesitated when Warner Bros. studio executives approach her about bringing it back amid other successful revivals — which included "Roseanne," until star Roseanne Barr's racist tweet killed it. (ABC is rolling the dice this season on its spinoff, "The Conners," minus Barr.)

"When you've been on the air for 10 years and people call you an iconic series, do you want to go back and take that risk that you might ruin it or it wouldn't be as good as it was at one time?" English said.

Watching "Will & Grace" manage a successful comeback piqued her interest, but it was the aftermath of the 2016 election that made the difference. "I started really thinking seriously about it as things in our country got worse and worse," she said. "And I thought, 'You know, all these shows are coming back but ours is the one that has the real reason to come back.' We are about the press. We always were a politically and culturally relevant show." □



Startups shook up the sleepy razor market. What's next?

By ALEXANDRA OLSON

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — What do you hate shopping for? Toothpaste? Sunscreen? The guys who founded Harry's shaving club want to know.

The startup, which took on razor giants Gillette and Schick with its direct-to-consumer subscription model, has since expanded into traditional retail and launched a line of body care products. Armed with \$112 million in new financing to develop new brands, the company now is investigating what other sleepy products might be ripe for disruption.

"It might be better products, a better experience getting the products or a brand that appeals to who they want to be as people," said Jeff Raider, who recently took on the role of CEO of Harry's Labs, overseeing the development of new brands.

There's a reason why Harry's investors are betting that reinventing the razor was no flash-in-the-pan idea. Insurgent brands are shaking up the way people buy everything from mattresses to prescription acne remedies, eating into the market share of big consumer product companies and leaving them scrambling to respond.

Eager venture capitalists, digital technology and social media make it easier for anyone with a good idea to enter the consumer goods market, according to a report on insurgent brands by Bain & Company, a management consulting firm. Contract manufacturing, which allows companies to outsource production and sometimes defray costs, also has made it simpler.

"The reality is that no category is immune to disruption," the Bain & Company report said.

Digital newcomers still represent only a fraction of the overall market share, according to the report. But such companies are capturing a disproportionate share of growth in recent years.



In this June 15, 2018, photo, the Winston razor and Harry's face lotion are on display at the headquarters of Harry's Inc., in New York.

Associated Press

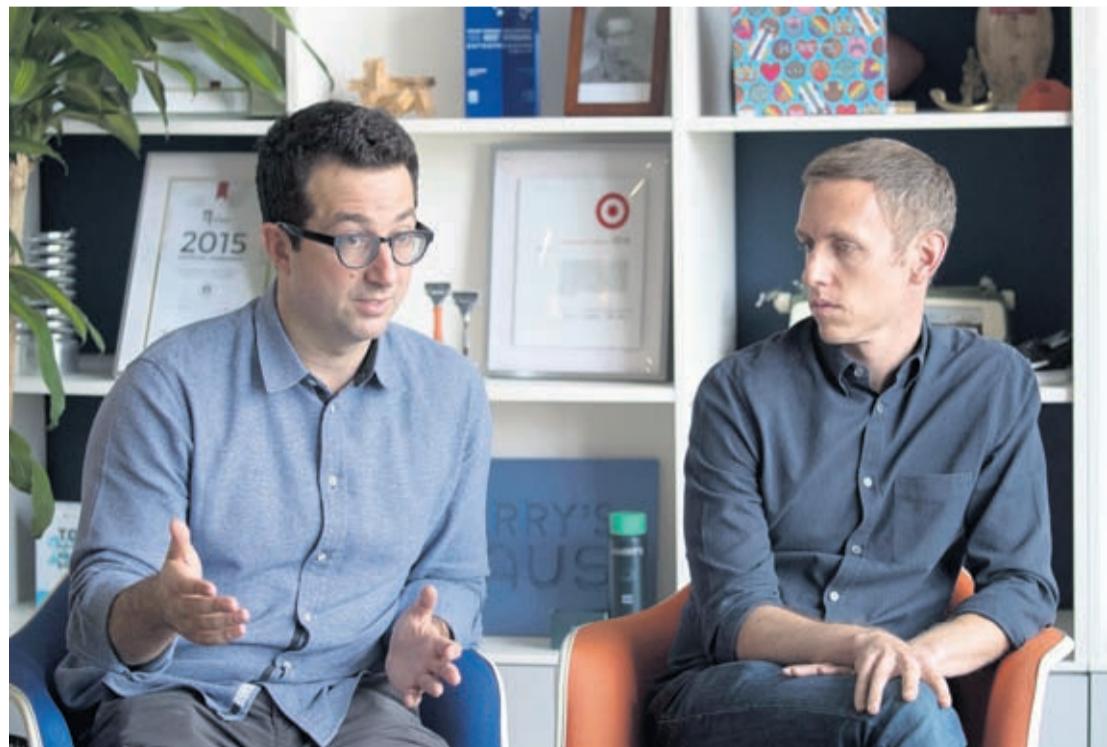
Harry's has captured about 2 percent of the \$2.8 billion men's shaving industry since its launch in 2013, according to Euromonitor market research firm. Its main rival, Dollar Shave Club, has about 8 percent. It's been a gut punch to the industry leaders.

Gillette controlled about 70 percent of the U.S. market a decade ago. Last year, its market share dropped to below 50 percent, according to Euromonitor.

No. 2 razor maker Schick has also been squeezed,

losing 3.6 percent in net North America razor sales in the most recent quarter. Both major brands now offer subscription services on their own direct-to-consumer sites, which they are leveraging to promote their lower-end razors while also showcasing their edge in technological innovation. "Our blades are known for their long-lasting quality, which means you need less cartridges per year as compared to the other shave clubs in the market," said Stephanie Lynn,

vice president of Global eCommerce for Edgewell, Schick's parent company. Pankaj Bhalla, brand director of Gillette North America, said increasing its online sales is a "key part of our strategy." He offers a reality check for the shave clubs: While Gillette might be new to the direct-to-consumer game, the brand says it has 70 percent of the market share on online retailers like Amazon and Jet.com. But critics say both incumbents were slow to respond to the new competition.



In this Friday, June 15, 2018, photo, co-founders and co-CEOs of Harry's Inc., Jeff Raider, left, and Andy Katz-Mayfield speak during an interview with The Associated Press at company headquarters in New York.

Associated Press

"Initially, the biggest players underestimated the potential of these brands, and when they reacted either by dropping prices or by launching their own subscription models, the damage was done," said Fatima Linares, beauty and fashion research manager at Euromonitor International. "It's still unknown what these companies will do to revert the situation, or if that is possible at all."

Harry's says it now has 6 million customers in the U.S. and Canada. It says business has grown 70 percent year-over-year, though it does not release sales figures. For Harry's and Dollar Shave Club, simplicity is the point. Harry's sells just one five-blade razor with a choice of two different types of handles, priced at about \$2 per cartridge under their subscription plan.

Dollar Shave Club offers a 4-blade and a 6-blade razor, with the cheaper one priced at \$1.50 per cartridge. It is a deliberate contrast to the dizzying array of razors offered by Gillette and Schick, the legacy of their century-old tradition of trying to outdo each other. Their lower-end products are priced comparatively with the shaving clubs, while their premium razors are much pricier.

How the newcomers compare in quality is a matter of furious social media debate. Harry's gets its share of negative reviews from customers who say its razors feel cheap, but others are fiercely loyal.

Greg Lesko, a 56-year-old Harry's customer from the Pittsburgh area, said he became "fed up" with Gillette's high prices. "I wouldn't go back if you paid me," he said. Like other insurgent companies, Harry's and Dollar Shave Club took off because they tapped into shoppers' grievances.

Harry's CEO Andy Katz-Mayfield said the idea for the start-up came to him during a 2011 visit to a drug store, where he had to ask an employee to unlock a case to spend \$25 for blades and shaving cream. □